DECEMBER 1991
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WORLD SOCCER

International Results and Tables

HOW YOU VOTED

PAPIN

YOUR PLAYER OF THE YEAR

WORLD CUP SPECIAL: New York here we come!

EXCLUSIVE: ALAN ROTHENBERG

WORLD CLUB CUP PREVIEW

CLUB FOCUS: GRASSHOPPERS

SPOTLIGHT: CHRIS WOODS

RIJKAARD • EKSTROM

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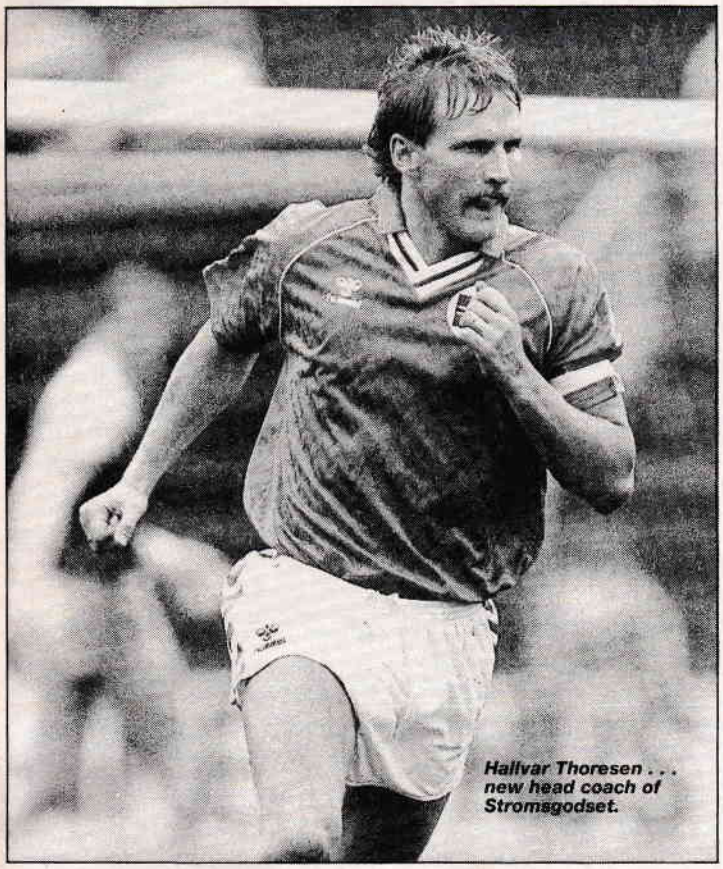
NORWAY BY SIGURD ODEGAARD

RELEGATED STROMSGODSET WIN THE CUP



Hallvar Thoresen . . . new head coach of Stromsgodset.

THE Norwegian season came to a remarkable conclusion when Stromsgodset, who were relegated after finishing bottom of the table, beat Rosenborg in the Cup Final.

So Rosenborg suffered another huge disappointment, having narrowly lost the title race to Viking.

In the opening minutes Rosenborg threw attack after attack at a vulnerable defence, and Karl Petter Loken soon scored their first goal.

They continued to control the match but out of the blue Odd Johnsen equalized, and as play developed it became evident that Rosenborg missed their captain, Sverre Brandhaug, who was out because of injury.

Gradually Stromsgodset improved, and Odd Johnsen gave them the lead with a fine headed goal.

The media had focused a lot on the duel between the two goalkeepers. Frode Olsen had just finished a superb season with Stromsgodset but was only on loan from Rosenborg. Ola By Rise had shown signs of weakness, notably against Sampdoria, and which goalkeeper would Rosenborg choose for next season?

By Rise had been at fault with both goals Rosenborg had conceded so far, and when Trond Nordeide increased the lead to 3-1 he was slow to react. Rosenborg threw everything into attack and Goran Sorloth pulled one back, but Stromsgodset held on to take the cup.

Odd Johnsen's goals made him the hero, but Halvor Storskogen, Trond Nordeide and Geir Anderson also played vital parts in this fine victory.

The goalkeeper contest was won by Frode Olsen — who then rejected a return to Rosenborg and accepted an offer from Start.

The fact that Stromsgodset will play in the Second Division next season means that the club might find it difficult to keep their best players, although the appointment of Hallvar Thoresen as new head coach should make them attractive to play for, even in a lower league.

Thoresen was Norway's captain and the country's leading player for many years, and had long successful spells with FC Twente and PSV Eindhoven as a professional.

He has been waiting for such a challenge after having been out of football at the highest level for some time.

The 1991 domestic season provided these results:

- **League:** Viking (Champions' Cup)
- **Runners-up:** Rosenborg (UEFA Cup)
- **Relegated:** Fyllingen and Stromsgodset
- **Promoted:** Mjondalen and Hamarkameratene
- **Cup:** Stromsgodset (Cup-winners' Cup)

HUNGARY BY BRIAN O'SULLIVAN

Storm in a satellite teacup

Byshovets . . . playful descriptions led to the misunderstanding.

HUNGARY found nothing to substantiate claims that Lajos Detari, the midfielder who plays for Bologna, was an alleged intermediary for his team-mates to receive $2,000 per man to beat the Soviet Union in the European Championship match which ended 2-2.

The Hungarians, despite being in an unwinnable position in the group were keen to give their popular manager, Kalman Meszoly, a rousing send-off before he came into a rather more substantial amount — a one-year tax-free $140,000 contract in Saudi Arabia.

All but one of the starting players is already earning hard currency by playing for western European clubs and, since the bribery scandals in the 1980s, Hungary's players know that any connection with "dirty money" is a fool's game.

Eliminated

The whole episode, discussed on a satellite TV programme, appears to have arisen from a simple misunderstanding. Kalman Kovacs, who played in the match, said as much after his Auxerre team had been eliminated from the second round of the UEFA Cup in Liverpool.

According to him, Anatoly Byshovets, the Soviet manager, had said after the game that he thought the Hungarians must have been promised money from the Italians, such was the motivation in their play.

That playful description of their play led to exaggerations in the media and induced the bribery line. "That was how it started — it was a misunderstanding", Kovacs said.

This lithe, darting, forward, scorer of the first goal in Auxerre's 2-0 first-leg win over Liverpool, lasted only the first quarter-hour of the second. A strong tackle by Gary Ablett caused such a bang on a thigh that he could not put further pressure on it.

Elsewhere, Hungarian interest in the European club competitions also ended at the second-round stage.

Kispest-Honved had produced the shock of the autumn season, beating Sampdoria 2-1 at home in the Champions' Cup despite having stand-in goalkeeper Istvan Tarlosi sent off in the 85th minute for handling outside the penalty area, only to lose 3-1 in Genoa.

Ferencvaros lost 1-0 at home to Werder Bremen in the Cup-winners' Cup after a tigerish effort in Germany, where they lost 3-2.

Kispest's home win over Sampdoria was sandwiched by a 4-2 home League defeat to Vaci Izzo, who are still unbeaten and continue to lead the table, and a 1-0 defeat against Vasas.

Ferenc Orosz, the 21-year-old Vac forward on loan from Kispest and in his first full season, scored twice, as did Attila Szalai.

Andras Csepregi, the libero, and man-marker Attila Plokai were injured and missed the match against Vasas, in which Kispest were reduced to ten men after 43 minutes when Jozsef Szabados was sent off. Washington Coco-Aires, the Uruguayan, exploited the disorder in the champions' ranks to score the 72nd-minute winning goal.

On the same day Ferencvaros lost 2-1 at home to MTK-VM. Sergei Morosov, formerly a Second Division club player in the Soviet Union, scored the winner in the 87th minute, on his debut as a 40th-minute substitute.

Spurred

Fradi, whose Peter Lipcsei made his international debut against the Republic of Ireland in September and not against the Soviet Union as stated last month, had scored only seven goals in six home League games.

Meanwhile, the promoted BVSC-MAVTRANSSPED, the surprise team of the season, were maintaining their consistency, being spurred on by Istvan Kisteleki, their manager, Viktor Gracsov, the former Soviet international, and Attila Pinter, bought from Ferencvaros to bolster the defence.

They moved into second place behind Vac by beating Zalaegerszeg, also promoted, 4-0, and then lost to Kispest only after a goal from Pisont, whose fine form, including both goals in the 2-0 win over Dundalk, brought him his second cap in the 0-0 draw against Norway.

Tatabanya and Zalaegerszeg, partners at the bottom of the table, were first to dismiss their managers.

Gabor Madar gave way to Istvan Mihalicz at ZTE, a week after Tatabanya dispensed with Barnabas Tornyi and brought in Gyula Rakosi, who had worked in tandem with Florian Albert at Ferencvaros.

Several teams will be hoping for a scorer in their Christmas stocking. The 12th round brought 11 goals from eight matches, after which Vac, with 17 points from five wins and seven draws, led on goal difference from Siofok (eight wins).

WORLD SOCCER AWARDS 1991

PAPIN AND PLATINI LEAD A CLEAN SWEEP FOR FRANCE

By KEIR RADNEDGE
World Soccer Editor

JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN of Marseille and France is your choice as World Player of the Year in a French clean sweep of our annual awards. Michel Platini is your Manager of the Year and France, first qualifiers for the European Championship finals, your Team of the Year.

Papin scored an exact 25 per cent. In the ten years of the awards only five players have achieved better and one of those was fellow countryman Michel Platini with 54 per cent in 1984.

Also, Papin is the first non-Italy-based player to win the award. Whether he will stay non-Italian for long is open to question. Milan expressed interest when Marseille tipped them out of the Champions' Cup last spring and that is likely to be renewed — particularly since even Bernard Tapie's Marseille may need the money to rebuild.

Consistency

Papin's consistency through the year has been marked at domestic, international club and national team level. He was league champion and top scorer in France, Champions' Cup runner-up and has been a key member of the French national team which qualified before anyone else for the European championship finals.

Runner-up to Papin was Robert Prosinecki and just behind him, in third place, fellow Yugoslav Darko Pancev. They owe their high ratings to Red Star Belgrade's Champions' Cup triumph. Who knows — they might have finished higher had Red Star played the Final in the style which took them that far?

Mark Hughes is the top British player, thanks to his high international profile with Manchester United in the Cup-winners' Cup and with Wales in the European Championship.

Last year's winner, Lothar Matthaus, is the top Italian-based player, in fourth place followed by Gianluca Vialli of Sampdoria and Fiorentina's Gabriel Batistuta — who joined the Italian club after scoring the goals which lifted Argentina to the South American championship this year.

As for World Manager of the Year Platini, he is the first personality to have won accolades in both individual categories — having been your World Player of the Year in 1985. Platini's success owes everything to France's unbeaten European Championship campaign. He is the second French national manager to win the award: Michel Hidalgo topped the poll in 1984.

Platini is the seventh national team manager to win the award. A well-deserved runner-up is Sampdoria's Yugoslav coach Vujadin Boskov with "Coco" Basile third in recognition of turning Argentina into Copa America winners after less than a year in the job there.

Maintaining the gallic dominance of this year's awards, France carry off the World Team of the Year prize. France won in 1984 and are the first nation to top the voting twice.

The "new" Argentina are runners-up. Red Star, had they turned on the style in Bari, might well have finished higher than third. Manchester United, in fourth place, are the top British team.

Platini . . . a unique double.

HOW YOU VOTED

WORLD PLAYER OF THE YEAR

1 .. JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN (Marseille & France) .. 25
2 .. ROBERT PROSINECKI (R Madrid, Yugoslavia) 15
3 .. DARKO PANCEV (Red Star, Yugoslavia) 13
4 .. Mark Hughes (Manchester Utd & Wales) 8
5 .. Lothar Matthaus (Inter & Germany) 6
6 .. Gianluca Vialli (Sampdoria & Italy) 5
7 .. Gabriel Batistuta (Boca/Fiorentina, Arg 4.5
8 .. Sergio Goycochea (Brest & Argentina 4
9 .. Stuart Pearce (Nottm Forest & England) 3.5
10 Gary Lineker (Tottenham & England) 3

Also suppported: Chris Waddle (Marseille & England), Dejan Savicevic (Red Star & Yugoslavia), Jurgen Klinsmann (Inter & Germany), Hossam Hassan (Xamax & Egypt), Roberto Baggio (Juventus & Italy), Hristo Stoichkov (Barcelona & Bulgaria), Bryan Robson (Manchester Utd & England), Claudio Caniggia (Verona & Argentina), Romario (PSV Eindhoven & Brazil), Marco Van Basten (Milan & Holland), Raul Amarilla (Olimpia, Paraguay), Franco Baresi (Milan, Italy), Steve Bruce (Man Utd), Jim Bett (Rangers, Scotland), Nicola Berti (Inter, Italy), Andy Brehme (Inter, Germany), Fernando Andres Gamboa (Newells Old Boys, Argentina), Rene Higuita (Valladolid, Colombia), Roberto Mancini (Sampdoria, Italy), Maradona (Napoli, Argentina), Michel (Real Madrid, Spain), Neto (Corinthians, Brazil), Rui Barros (Monaco, Portugal), Matthias Sammer (Stuttgart, Germany), Dean Saunders (Liverpool, Wales), David Seaman (Arsenal, England), Lee Sharpe (Man Utd, England), Neville Southall (Everton, Wales), Gianfranco Zola (Napoli, Italy), Kubilay Turkyilmaz (Bologna, Switzerland), Gordon Strachan (Leeds, Scotland).

WORLD MANAGER OF THE YEAR

1 .. MICHEL PLATINI (France) 42
2 .. VUJADIN BOSKOV (Sampdoria) 19
3 .. ALFIO BASILE (Argentina) 10
4 .. Johan Cruyff (Barcelona) 6
5 .. Alex Ferguson (Manchester United) 5
6 .. George Graham (Arsenal) 4
7 .. Bora Milutinovic (United States) 3
8 .. Ljubomir Petrovic (Red Star/Espanol) 2
9 .. Radomir Antic (Real Madrid) 1.5
10 .Morten Olsen (Brondbyernes) 1

Also supported: Franz Beckenbauer (Marseille), Jack Charlton (Rep Ireland), Brian Clough (Nottm Forest), Aad de Mos (Anderlecht), Kartheinz Feldkamp (Kaiserslautern), Raymond Goethals (Marseille), Wim Jansen (Feyenoord), Claudio Ranieri (Napoli), Bobby Robson (PSV Eindhoven), Uli Stielike (Switzerland), Graham Taylor (England), Giovanni Trapattoni (Inter/Juventus), Terry Venables (Tottenham), Howard Wilkinson (Leeds), Terry Yorath (Wales).

WORLD TEAM OF THE YEAR

1 .. FRANCE 20
2 .. ARGENTINA 17
3 .. RED STAR BELGRADE 13
4 .. Manchester United 9
5 .. Sampdoria 8
6 .. Marseille 7
7 .. Arsenal 5
8 .. Barcelona 4
9 .. Real Madrid 3
10 Colo Colo 2

Also supported: Aberdeen, Brazil Youth, Brondbyernes, England, Faroe Islands, Genoa, Germany, Hajduk Split, Hansa Rostock, Internazionale, Kaiserslautern, Liverpool, Nottingham Forest, Portugal Youth, Soviet Union, Sparta Praha, Tottenham Hotspur, United States, Wales.

***Note:** All figures are percentages of the votes cast.*

WHAT'S ON

FOR the first time TWO home countries have reached the finals of the European Championship — England squeezing through thanks to a late Gary Lineker goal against Poland and then Scotland owing their place to Bulgaria's resistance against Romania. Along with England and Scotland and hosts Sweden, the finals next June will see France, the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, almost certainly World Cup-holders Germany and probably defending title-holders Holland. Their secure presence rests on the concluding qualifiers this month.

THIS MONTH:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
European championship
Greece v Holland

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8
World Club Cup Final
Colo Colo v Red Star (in Tokyo)

World Cup qualifying draw (Madison Square Garden, New York).

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11
Champions' Cup, 3rd rnd
Group A: Red Star v Anderlecht, Panathinaikos v Sampdoria.
Group B: Sparta Praha v Kiev Dynamo, Benfica v Barcelona.
UEFA Cup, 3rd rnd
2nd legs: Trabzonspor v B1903, Moscow Dynamo v Gent, Sigma Olomouc v Hamburg, Liverpool v FC Tirol, Ajax v Osasuna, Genoa v Steaua, AEK Athens v Torino, Real Madrid v Xamax Neuchatel.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17
European championship
Germany v Luxembourg

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18
B intl: Spain v England

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
European championship
Italy v Cyprus

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22
Malta v Greece

DELEGATES from every continent are to attend the first *WORLD SOCCER* Forum at the Hilton National Hotel, Wembley.

The conference, on Friday 6 December, involves discussion of all aspects of event organisation.

Visitors can watch Football League matches in the area on the following day, and on Sunday 8 December there is a Soccer Business to Business Exhibition, open to the public free of charge.

The Forum should not be missed by anybody associated with soccer. More details can be obtained on 0938-553631.

SOVIET UNION BY PENTTI HIETANEN

MOSCOW'S TAPIE

NEW OWNER BIDS BIG

REMEMBER the name....Husam Al-Halidi. He was born in Iraq but has lived in Moscow since his childhood, making a fortune from business interests.

And he wants to become a big wheel in the soccer world.

Al-Halidi is a Moscow Dynamo fan and wanted to buy the club, but was advised to lower his sights a bit.

Bestovoi . . . came up through the youth system at Krasnaya.

The advice came from Konstantiv Beskov, former Dynamo player and one-time coach to the national team.

Beskov suggested a possible target: Krasnaya Pressiya, a mediocre Second Division team best-known as a nursery for Moscow Spartak.

Stars such as Sergei Rodionov, Vasili Kulkov and Aleksander Mostovoi came up through the ranks at Krasnaya, where the present coach is Vladimir Fedotov, Boskov's son-in-law.

Al-Halidi duly took control of KP, who had almost gone out of business when the previous owner, a taxi company, withdrew financial backing.

Now there are ambitious plans for a modernised stadium with more seats, for football schools catering for local talent, and for various other facilities.

The club — now named FC Asmaral after an Al-Halidi company — have had to face bureaucratic and political opposition.

But the new owner is able to pay top money to players, equal to what they can earn at Spartak and Kiev Dynamo.

With the seemingly ageless Beskov still very much a driving force behind the scenes, and with Al-Halidi determined to become something of a Berlusconi or Tapie, there could be a new power in Soviet soccer before too long.

Remember, you read about it here first.

The Spartak coach, Oleg Romantsev — who began his coaching career at Krasnaya Pressiya — is upset by his club's inability to hold on to top players.

"You can't compare the present team with the one who defeated Napoli and Real Madrid last season," he says.

"We have lost five key players to foreign clubs and may have to sell even more. We have our youngsters, but they don't have international experience.

"We must put our house in order, and it will be four or five years before we can again challenge for international trophies."

Spartak reached the semi-final of the Champions' Cup last season, and qualified for this season's UEFA Cup after finishing fifth in the table.

POLAND

Lech take the lead

WITH the England and Ireland games in Poznan overshadowing all else, the disappearance of the Polish representatives from the European events has gone almost unnoticed.

All eyes in the League, too, are focused on Poznan, where leaders Lech have opened up a three-point gap, with Podbrozny putting away the chances. Widzew, Katowice and Zawisza are second, third and fourth on the same points.

Pegrotour and Olimpia, Poznan's second club, are drifting at the bottom, with Legia, cup-winners of the past two seasons.

Katowice's 4-2 win meant Legia dropping to 16th place, and in the all-Silesian battle there was also a 4-2 scoreline, Gornik accounting for Ruch.

ARMY WIN LAST BATTLE

THE Red Army may never again win in the Soviet Union, but the last victory was an impressive double — League and Cup for CSKA, the Central Army Sports Club.

These may well be the last USSR championship and the last Soviet Cup, because the idea of separate events in 15 separate republics is no longer a mere fantasy.

Already Georgia and the three Baltic states are playing on their own, desperately seeking recognition from UEFA and FIFA, and the Ukraine are ready to follow.

CSKA had declined in recent years from previous high standards, but touched new glory this year. Galyamin, Kuznetsov and Korneev were outstanding on the field, but most credit goes to Pavel Sadyrin, in his third year as coach.

"Trust me and I'll make you champions" he told his men. "And no foreign contracts until the season ends." They called it a deal, choosing to stay rather than follow the 100 or so Soviets now playing for Western clubs.

They kept their promise, and Saydrin kept his. He made them winners, and he stayed with them even when offered the job of national coach.

The worst blow for CSKA came when goalkeeper Mikhail Yeremin was killed in a road accident on the day after the Cup victory over Torpedo.

The team faltered for a time, but gradually recovered their form and eventually saw off Moscow Spartak's challenge.

Igor Kolyvanov of Moscow Dynamo was the top scorer in a remarkable stop-go sequence. He failed to score in 16 of his 27 matches, hit 18 goals in the others, 11 of them by May, added only two more in five months, then scored five against Dnepr just before the season ended.

Admitted

"I lost concentration after being offered a contract by Foggia," Kolyvanov admitted. After negotiation, he decided to stay until the season ended, when the club would release him.

Average attendances during the season were 11,393, over 2,000 down on last year.

On a happier note, referee Valery Butenko finished his career with an average mark of 9.08 out of 10 for his 13 games.

VICTOR GUTSEV

BULGARIA BY BOB VAUGHAN

CSKA LOOK BEST YET

Hamburg's Jan Furtok (light shirt) is tackled by CSKA's George Nachov during their UEFA Cup first round clash in Germany.

CSKA led the table as the winter break loomed, mainly thanks to Letchob's average of almost a goal a game.

In a rescheduled match before Hamburg's UEFA visit, the Ex-Army team were too good for Pirin, who could be in even greater relegation trouble but for Minior's rapid descent down the table. Despite being at home to Slavia and dominating much of the match, Minior could not put away the chances and now lie 15th, a point ahead of Hebar.

At the top the Plovdiv clubs are challenging the capital for the "autumn title" but CSKA, yet to be beaten, must be the best bet.

Cup-winners Levski could draw only 0-0 with visiting Etar but the point means that the champions, put out of Europe by Kaiserslautern, have stabilised their position in mid-table after a wretched start.

With Hamburg putting an end to Bulgarian aspirations for the season by eliminating CSKA 6-2 on aggregate there is little for the fans to look forward to.

The national team frustrated the Romanians as they attempted to overhaul Scotland in the European Championship.

But it's back to the drawing board before the World Cup groupings are known. Success there will depend on the successful introduction of professional football, and perhaps even more on better management on and off the field.

be an outstanding figure in next summer's European Championship.

Ajax, however, have problems. Goalkeeper Stanley Menzo is playing poorly for once, and his blunders against PSV and Utrecht cost crucial defeats. PSV's 3-2 victory over the Amsterdammers produced the most delightful match of the season so far.

Louis van Gaal, Ajax's new manager, who publicly blamed Menzo, is none too popular within the squad.

John van't Schip, a winger with 30 caps, said he no longer enjoyed playing on the wing, wanted a place in midfield, and found himself on the bench.

Van Gaal moved Jan Wouters, who has played over 40 internationals, from his favourite place in central midfield to left-half, to make way for the young Wim Jonk. This move caused astonishment, and transfer rumours.

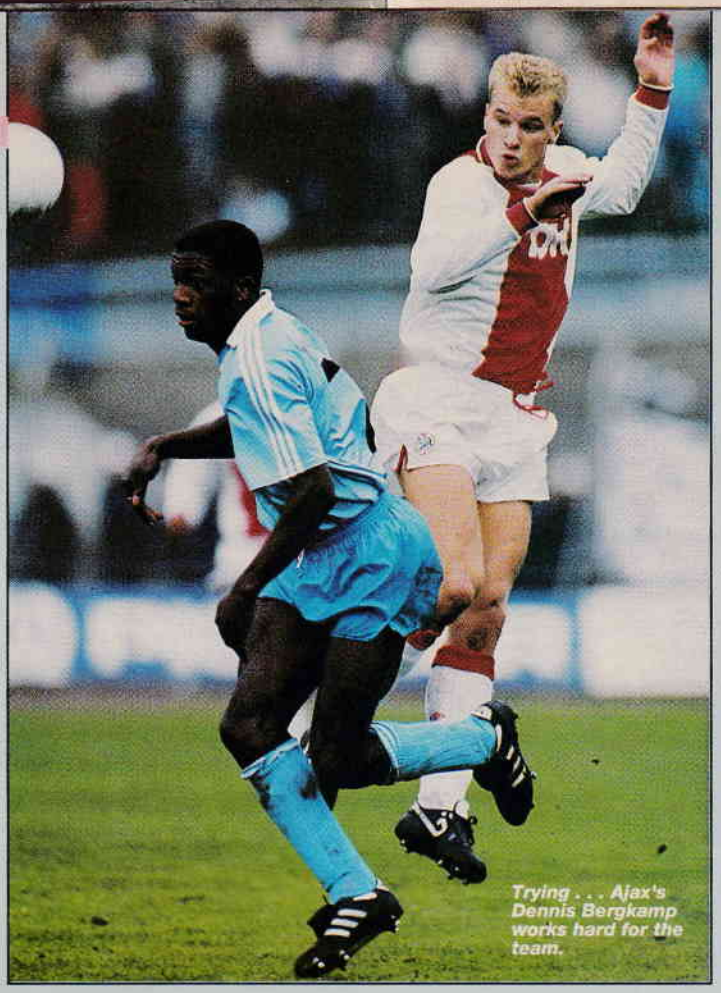
Demonstrated

Feyenoord second in the League behind PSV, are certainly in with a chance when they meet Spurs in the Cup-winners' Cup.

Their progress in the first two rounds demonstrated the strengths and weaknesses of their current team. In four matches Feyenoord scored one goal and conceded none. Both games against Sion ended 0-0 and the tie had to be decided on penalties.

Similarly, after 15 League matches Feyenoord had scored 21 goals and conceded nine. Spurs will meet a fearsome defence and a modest attack.

Only PSV are above Feyenoord in the table, with 24 points from 15 matches, but Anderlecht knocked them out of the Champions' Cup.



Trying . . . Ajax's Dennis Bergkamp works hard for the team.

PORTUGAL BY ALBERTO DA SILVA

BENFICA BOLSHOI

BENFICA'S splendid defeat of Arsenal in the Champions' Cup gave Portuguese football a welcome touch of rejuvenation.

Up till then, there had been rather a gloomy atmosphere, with poor attendances and too much defensive play, particularly when the big guns were in opposition.

Sporting v Benfica 0-0; Porto v Sporting 0-0; Porto v Benfica 0-0. Managers, players and directors dare not lose the big games, so they go desperately for scoreless draws.

Most of the best players in the country just now are Portuguese, and the national team, under a new boss, Carlos Quieroz, did badly in Holland and lost 1-0 to say goodbye to their chance of a European Championship place in Sweden next summer.

Integrated

Then Arsenal arrived at the Estadio da Luz, and Benfica at last played as they had not done before this season. Coach Eriksson's changes worked.

The Brazilian Isaias came out of obscurity to show his real talent, and the Russians and Swedes at last integrated into a team.

Even so, Arsenal merited their draw, but new hope was alive in Lisbon. And the second leg surprised everybody. Benfica played as they did in the 1960s, a courageous, skilful display that stunned the Gunners.

Perhaps Eriksson may be able to build a new Benfica that Europe had despaired of seeing again.

The Lisbon Eagles live in the hearts of millions of Europeans who remember them from their great days.

When they move the ball with grace and fluency, as they did at Highbury, they remain in the mind's eye just as ballet dancers do when taking centre stage.

Isaias, Yuran, Kulkov and Rui Costa may well become known as the "Lisbon Bolshoi".

Talent . . . Benfica's Brazilian striker Isaias impressed against Arsenal.

SWEDEN BY TIM MANSEL

IFK do the double

IFK Gothenburg underlined their dominance by winning the Swedish Cup, two weeks after clinching the championship for the second year running.

Their domestic achievements, however, were put into perspective by their failure to progress beyond the second round of the Champions' Cup.

Panathinaikos beat them 4-2 on aggregate.

In a rainswept Cup Final at Stockholm's Rasunda stadium, Gothenburg survived a few scares to beat AIK 3-2 in extra time.

Kai Eskelinen, Stefan Rehn (penalty) and Peter Eriksson scored for the champions, Pascal Simpson and Gary Sundgren replied.

AIK were left with the consolation of next year's Cup-winners' Cup, because Gothenburg, as champions, qualify for the Champions' Cup.

Finished

In winning the championship Gothenburg owed a large debt to Kennet Andersson (above), who scored 13 times before departing for a professional career with the Belgian club Mechelen.

Despite missing the final part of the Swedish season, Andersson still finished as the League's top scorer.

Sweden's two UEFA Cup representatives next year will be IFK Norrkoping and Orebro, who finished second and third respectively.

Malmo, under English manager Bob Houghton, just missed out on Europe, but they are a young side, with a number of promising players, and may be a force next year.

Of the four clubs who failed to qualify for the championship play-offs, two will be back in the Allsvenskan next year — Oster and Gais.

Halmstad and GIF Sundsvall will be playing regional football again next year, and will be replaced by Trelleborg and Vastra Frolunda.

Hossam Hassan (left) scores his third goal against Celtic, despite Whyte's challenge.

ALBANIA

THE big change in the political life of Albania is having an influence for the worse on football.

Many players including some internationals have left the country and Partizan Tirana have lost 20.

Surprisingly the club still continue to challenge for the championship, holding second place two points behind Vllaznia Shkodra. Vllaznia have led from the first week and conceded only five goals in their first ten games.

They play a thoughtful style of soccer under their coach, Astrit Hafizi.

Newcomers Laci, in the First Division for the first time, are surprisingly high, in third place, but SK Tirana, formerly known as 17 Nentori are near the bottom and in danger of relegation.

Champions Flamurtari who had six points deducted for misbehaviour are trying to make up lost ground but their chances of keeping the title seem slim.

The original sentence was a 12-point deduction, but was halved on appeal.

Sentences on the participants also were reduced. The coaches, Licas and Zilja had their bans halved, to six months and players Dema and Memushi who had been suspended for three years each, now miss only the first half of the season.

Two others, Taho and Mehilli, miss only four games instead of six months.

SWITZERLAND BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

HOSSAM'S HIGHLIGHTS

XAMAX NEUCHATEL, a modest club from a charming lakeside resort, are the toast of Switzerland.

Their 5-1 win over Glasgow Celtic in the UEFA Cup was one of the best performances by a Swiss side for years.

The hero was the Egyptian striker Hossam Hassan, who scored four goals. The Scots should have been forewarned — Hassan hit one of Egypt's goals in a remarkable 3-1 win over their national side at Aberdeen in May 1990.

Hassan's twin Ibrahim, a defender, and sweeper Hany Ramzy, who made a big impression in the World Cup, are the other Egyptians with Xamax, who also employ a Spaniard, an Italian, a Swede, a Yugoslav and a Brazilian.

Hossam was not always flavour of the month in Neuchatel. He arrived late for pre-season training and was disciplined. But after his four-goal burst against Celtic, club president Gilbert Facchinetti said: "We now have the centre-forward we've been seeking for years."

But team manager Roy Hodgson is not convinced. "I have now seen three different faces of Hassan. Against Celtic he was world class, against Grasshoppers average, against Young Boys a catastrophe. I wonder which is the real Hossam Hassan?"

Crisis

Xamax now have an infinitely tougher task against Real Madrid, but they will at least fill the ground.

Spare a thought for poor Wettingen, at the bottom and in a deep financial crisis.

The resignation of president and benefactor Hubert Stockli has led to trouble with sponsors, and the players have not been paid for the past two months.

After 18 matches Lausanne were still unbeaten and four points clear of title-holders Grasshoppers.

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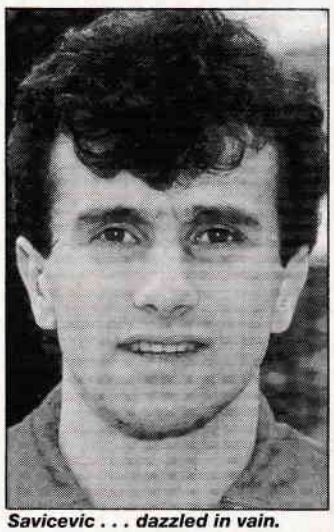
YUGOSLAVIA BY TIM COLLINGS

Dejan dazzles



Savicevic . . . dazzled in vain.

DEJAN SAVICEVIC dazzled, but Red Star Belgrade, and last season's winner of the Golden Boot, Darko Pancev, in particular, failed to shine.

So the Champions' Cup holders lost 1-0 to Manchester United at Old Trafford in the European Super Cup final.

The prosect of a tie against Sampdoria a week after their date in Manchester looked to be in many players' thoughts.

A week earlier the "national" team, if they can be so described, claimed their place in next summer's European Championship finals with a comfortable 2-0 victory in Vienna.

Goals by Lukic and Savicevic in the first half made sure Austria were easily seen off before only 8,000 fans and ensured that one of the most technically gifted teams in Europe will take a place in the finals. Who plays in the team next June is another matter entirely.

Manager Ivica Osim's plans cannot be laid easily as the civil war continues to bring death, chaos and destruction.

He also has to help guide his club side, Partizan Belgrade, through the ritual of a much-weakened League campaign, in which Red Star continue to set the standard even if Partizan are out on top.

Osim could at least relax briefly after the win in Vienna took Yugoslavia a point clear of Denmark's challenge at the top of Group Four.

Creative

Yugoslavia finished with 14 points from eight games (their only defeat being 2-1 at home to Denmark) and a very impressive total of 24 goals.

The creative side of the team needs little introduction and has already won praise from England's Graham Taylor, who said: "There is no doubt that the Yugoslavs are the most gifted technically of the teams who have qualified for the finals, and in Pancev, Prosinecki and Savicevic they have three outstanding players."

Much will depend during the winter on how well the Yugoslavs can prepare themselves within the framework of their shattered country, with its weakened League, deprived of the top Croatian and Slovenian teams, dominated by the leading Serbian clubs and with so many top players now abroad in France, Spain and Italy.

Red Star's progress in Europe could be a barometer. In domestic competition, they continued to show their class with a 6-1 thrashing of Subotica a few hours before flying to Manchester.

Foggia 1 (Signori 70,), **Parma 1** (Melli 87). **Att:** 24,000.
Juventus 2 (Baggio 10 pen, Kohler 32), **Bari 0**. **Att:** 35,000.
Lazio 0, Internazionale 1 (Ferri 1). **Att:** 60,000.
Napoli 3 (Crippa 7, Careca 39, Padovano 69), **Verona 1** (Prytz 76 pen). **Att:** 35,000.
Sampdoria 4 (Mancini 12, 32, Vialli 30 pen, 39), **Ascoli 0**. **Att:** 27,000.

PORTUGAL Midweek

FC Porto 0, Sp. Lisbon 0

Weekend

Chaves 0, FC Porto 1
Boavista 2, Farense 0
Gil Vicente 1, Salgueiros 0
Vit.Guimares 2, Penafiel 2
Sp. Lisbon 3, Union Madeira 0
Estoril 1, Beira-Mar 0
Torriense 1, Benfica 3
Maritimo 0, Sp. Braga 0
Pacos Ferreira 0, Famalicao 1

SCOTLAND Weekend

Airdrie 1 (Balfour 11), **St Johnstone 2** (Turner 57, 72). **Att:** 4,000.
Dundee United 2 (Malpas 21 pen, Bollan 37), **Motherwell 2** (Angus 32, Dolan 85). **Att:** 6,844.
Dunfermline 1 (Moyes 16), **St Mirren 4** (Irvine 23, Charnley 59, Lambert 62, Broddle 67). **Att:** 4,428.
Falkirk 1 (McAllister 32), **Hearts 2** (Crabbe 8, Miller 42). **Att:** 9,000.
Hibernian 1 (McGinlay 80), **Celtic 1** (Nicholas 39). **Att:** 17,500.
Rangers 0, Aberdeen 2 (Jess 72, Grant 88). **Att:** 36,330.

SWITZERLAND Midweek

Lausanne Sports 2, Grasshoppers 2

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY,OCT 6

AUSTRIA Weekend

Sturm Graz 0, Kremser SC 1
St Polten 2, Stahl Linz 0
Austria Wien 5, Rapid Wien 1
Vorwarts Steyr 1, Vienna 2
DSV Alpine Donawitz 0, Austria S. 4
FC Tirol 3, Admira Wacker 2

BELGIUM Weekend

Antwerp 2 (Kiekens 73, Claesen 75), **Molenbeek 1** (Osundu 40). **Att:** 2,000.
Anderlecht 1 (De Wolf 46), **Beveren 2** (Van Vossen 34 pen, Lodders 61). **Att:** 18,000.
Lierse 2 (Rekdal 8, 73), **Lokeren 1** (Myyry 43). **Att:** 8,000.
Standard 0, KV Mechelen 0. **Att:** 20,000.
Gent 0, Charlerol 0. **Att:** 7,000.
Genk 0, Cercle Brugge 2 (Weber 53, 89). **Att:** 6,000.
Kortrijk 1 (Derouck 63), **Waregem 1** (Abeels 32). **Att:** 5,500.
Aalst 0, Ekeren 1 (Polley 84). **Att:** 5,000.
Club Brugge 4 (Amokachi 8, Borkelmans 35, 89, Booy 56), **FC Liege 0**. **Att:** 9,000.

ENGLAND Midweek

Crystal Palace 1 (Bright 89), **Leeds United 0**. **Att:** 18,298.
Wimbledon 2 (Blackwell 50, Newhouse 70), **Sheffield Wednesday 1** (Pearson 76). **Att:** 3,121.

Weekend

Arsenal 3 (Dixon 30 pen, Wright 47, Campbell 70), **Chelsea 2** (Le Saux 14, Wilson 19). **Att:** 42,074.
Aston Villa 4 (Richardson 3, Regis 46, Yorke 59, Mortimer 80), **Luton Town 0**. **Att:** 18,722.
Everton 3 (Cottee 14, pen 21, 30), **Tottenham 1** (Lineker 17). **Att:** 29,505.
Leeds United 4 (Hodge 5, 47, Sterland 29, 38 pen), **Sheffield United 3** (Hoyland 54, Agana 76, Bradshaw 83). **Att:** 28,362.
Manchester United 0, Liverpool 0. **Att:** 44,997.
Oldham Athletic 1 (Henry 67), **Southampton 1** (Shearer 28). **Att:** 13,133.
QPR 0, Nottingham Forest 2 (Sheringham 27, 68). **Att:** 13,508.
Sheffield Wed. 4 (Worthington 8, Hirst 39, 44, Palmer 83), **Crystal Palace 1** (Bright 22). **Att:** 26,230.
West Ham United 0, Coventry City 1 (Gallacher 78). **Att:** 21,817.
Wimbledon 3 (Fitzgerald 3, Fashanu 73, Clarke 75), **Norwich City 1** (Beckford 69). **Att:** 3,531.
Notts County 1 (Thomas 49), **Manchester City 3** (Sheron 51, Allen 70 pen, 71). **Att:** 11,878.

FRANCE Weekend

Montpellier 0, Nimes 0. **Att:** 20,000.
Monaco 0, Toulouse 2 (Bancarel 84, 90). **Att:** 4,000.
Rennes 1 (Baltazar 87), **Caen 0**. **Att:** 9,267.
Paris SG 2 (Bravo 28, Perez 70), **Toulon 3** (Revelles 64, Blanc 87, Rodriguez 89). **Att:** 22,000.
Marseille 4 (Steven 14, Xuereb 29, Papin 74, 89), **Nantes 0**. **Att:** 25,000.
Lille 0, Metz 2 (Stopyra 4, Huysmann 36). **Att:**5,000.
Le Havre 1 (Moreau 45), **Auxerre 0**. **Att:** 9,416.
Lyon 0, St Etienne 0. **Att:** 27,673.
Nancy 3 (Zitelli 56, Tarasiewicz 83, Zavarov 87), **Lens 1** (Bocande 43). **Att:** 7,500.
Cannes 2 (Guerit 33, Omam-Biyik 81), **Sochaux 1** (Vujevic 34). **Att:** 2,500.

GERMANY Weekend

Borussia Dortmund 3 (Chapuisat 35, 70, Rummenigge 38 pen), **FC Nurnberg 2** (Reinhardt 61 o.g., Friedmann 78). **Att:** 37,200.
Karlsruher SC 1 (Schutterle 57), **Dynamo Dresden 0**. **Att:** 14,000.
MSV Duisburg 1 (Wolk 89), **VfL Bochum 1** (Milde 71). **Att:** 21,000.
Wattenscheid 1 (Schupp 83), **Kaiserslautern 0**. **Att:** 8,000.
Borussia Mg 1 (Max 2), **Hamburg SV 0**. **Att:** 22,000.
Bayern Munich 1 (Wohlfarth 72), **Stuttgarter Kickers 4** (Kula 8, Marin 24, Keim 65, Moutas 90). **Att:** 35,000.
Hansa Rostock 3 (Wahl 26 pen, Machala 68, Spies 86), **F. Dusseldorf 1** (Demandt 36). **Att:** 10,500.
Werder Bremen 2 (Neubarth 36, Legat 50), **Schalke 04 1** (Borodjuk 68). **Att:** 25,350.
Bayer Leverkusen 1 (Kree 76), **FC Koln 1** (Fuchs 89). **Att:** 22,000.
VfB Stuttgart 1 (Gaudino 45), **Eintracht Frankfurt 2** (Anderson 60, Yeboah 80). **Att:** 55,000.

HOLLAND Weekend

MVV 0, Feyenoord 1 (Damaschin 33). **Att:** 8,200.
FC Groningen 5 (Van Duren 6, Rossien 20, 38 pen, Djurovski 55, 73), **SVV/Dordrecht 0**. **Att:** 13,111.
RKC 1 (Luhukay 51), **Vitesse 0**. **Att:** 2,800.
FC Den Haag 0, PSV Eindhoven 2 (Vanenburg 29 pen, Koeman 86). **Att:** 9,000.
FC Utrecht 3 (De Kruyff 23, Smolarek 64 pen, 76 pen), **Roda JC 1** (Arnold 17). **Att:** 6,200.
Sparta 1 (Dennis de Nooijer 78), **Willem II 1** (Vincent 1). **Att:** 3,500.

ITALY Weekend

Ascoli 1 (Zaini 28), **Napoli 4** (Careca 2, 58, Zola 50, 80). **Att:** 20,000.
Atalanta 0, AC Milan 2 (Van Basten 3 pen, Albertini 48). **Att:** 32,000.
Bari 0, Cremonese 0. **Att:** 38,000.
Genoa 2 (Aguilera 60, Bortolazzi 69), **Juventus 1** (Corini 8 pen). **Att:** 38,000.
Internazionale 1 (Desideri 48), **Fiorentina 1** (Fiondella 71). **Att:** 40,000.
Parma 2 (Minotti 14, Grun 59), **Sampdoria 1** (Vialli 56 pen). **Att:** 22,000.
AS Roma 1 (Rizzitelli 80), **Lazio 1** (Riedle 66). **Att:** 62,281.
Torino 3 (Policano 17, Scifo 27, Lentini 54), **Foggia 1** (Baiano 80). **Att:** 30,000.
Verona 2 (Fanna 58, Stojkovic 73), **Cagliari 0**. **Att:** 23,000.

PORTUGAL Weekend

Boavista 1, Gil Vicente 0
Penafiel 0, Sp. Lisbon 2
Union Madeira 1, Estoril 1
Beira-Mar 1, Torriense 0
Benfica 2, Maritimo 0
Sp. Braga 3, Pacos Ferreira 1
Famalicao 1, Chaves 0
Salgueiros v Vit.Guimaraes — postponed
Farense v FC Porto — postponed

SCOTLAND Weekend

Aberdeen 4 (Ten Caat 13, Grant 29, Irvine 67, Mason 76), **St Mirren 1** (Charnley 54). **Att:** 10,200.
Airdrie 0, Rangers 4 (Nisbet 14, Johnston 15, McCoist 38, 83). **Att:** 11,500.
Celtic 3 (McNally 2, Nicholas 45 pen, Cascarino 68), **Hearts 1** (Robertson 12). **Att:** 33,106.
Falkirk 0, Dundee United 4 (Ferguson 14, Ferreyra 68, 75, Paatelainen 84). **Att:** 5,300.
Hibernian 3 (Hunter 21, Wright 39, McGinlay 64), **Dunfermline 0**. **Att:** 10,000.
St Johnstone 0, Motherwell 1 (Griffin 43). **Att:** 5,014.

SPAIN Weekend

Sp Gijon 1 (Luhovy 67 pen), **Real Madrid 4** (Butragueno 16, 25, Michel 68, Hierro 83). **Att:** 19,500.
Sevilla 0, Logrones 1 (Polster 66). **Att:** 40,000.
Athletic Bilbao 0, La Coruna 0. **Att:** 35,000.
Valladolid 1 (Pereira 54), **Albacete 0**. **Att:** 20,000.
Cadiz 0, Burgos 2 (Narciso 61, Loren 68). **Att:** 10,000.
Tenerife 0, Mallorca 1 (Hassan 61). **Att:** 20,000.
Valencia 1 (Fernando 67), **Espanol 0**. **Att:** 30,000.
Osasuna 1 (Larrainzar 85), **Real Sociedad 0**. **Att:** 18,000.
Atletico Madrid 2 (Soler 34, Losada 52), **Zaragoza 1** (Salva 89). **Att:** 50,000.
Barcelona 1 (Julio Salinas 43), **Oviedo 2** (Vinals 28, Carlos 41). **Att:** 75,000.

SWITZERLAND Weekend

Aarau 2, Sion 2
Lugano 2, Wettingen 0
Neuchatel Xamax 1, Lausanne 1
St Gallen 2, Grasshoppers 0
Servette 6, FC Luzern 3
FC Zurich 0, Young Boys 0

[redacted]

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

GROUP 1

30.05.90 Iceland v Albania 2-0
05.09.90 Iceland v France 1-2
26.09.90 Czechoslovakia v Iceland 1-0
10.10.90 Spain v Iceland 2-1
13.10.90 France v Czechoslovakia 2-1
14.11.90 Czechoslovakia v Spain 3-2
17.11.90 Albania v France 0-1
19.12.90 Spain v Albania 9-0
20.02.91 France v Spain 3-1
30.03.91 France v Albania 5-0
01.05.91 Albania v Czechoslovakia 0-2
26.05.91 Albania v Iceland 1-0
05.06.91 Iceland v Czechoslovakia 0-1
04.09.91 Czechoslovakia v France 1-2
25.09.91 Iceland v Spain 2-0
12.10.91 Spain v France 1-2
16.10.91 Czechoslovakia v Albania 2-1
13.11.91 Spain v Czechoslovakia 2-1
20.11.91 France v Iceland 3-1
18.12.91 Albania v Spain

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
FRANCE	8	8	0	0	20	6	16
Czechoslovakia	8	5	0	3	12	9	10
Spain	7	3	0	4	17	12	6
Iceland	8	2	0	6	7	10	4
Albania	7	1	0	6	2	21	2

GROUP 2

12.09.90 Switzerland v Bulgaria 2-0
12.09.90 Scotland v Romania 2-1
17.10.90 Romania v Bulgaria 0-3
17.10.90 Scotland v Switzerland 2-1
14.11.90 Bulgaria v Scotland 1-1
14.11.90 San Marino v Switzerland 0-4
05.12.90 Romania v San Marino 6-0
27.03.91 Scotland v Bulgaria 1-1
27.03.91 San Marino v Romania 1-3
03.04.91 Switzerland v Romania 0-0
01.05.91 Bulgaria v Switzerland 2-3
01.05.91 San Marino v Scotland 0-2
22.05.91 San Marino v Bulgaria 0-3
05.06.91 Switzerland v San Marino 7-0
11.09.91 Switzerland v Scotland 2-2
16.10.91 Bulgaria v San Marino 4-0
16.10.91 Romania v Scotland 1-0
13.11.91 Scotland v San Marino 4-0
13.11.91 Romania v Switzerland 1-0
20.11.91 Bulgaria v Romania 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
SCOTLAND	8	4	3	1	14	7	11
Switzerland	8	4	2	2	19	7	10
Romania	8	4	2	2	13	7	10
Bulgaria	8	3	3	2	15	8	9
San Marino	8	0	0	8	1	33	0

GROUP 3

12.09.90 USSR v Norway 2-0
10.10.90 Norway v Hungary 0-0
17.10.90 Hungary v Italy 1-1
31.10.90 Hungary v Cyprus 4-2
03.11.90 Italy v USSR 0-0
14.11.90 Cyprus v Norway 0-3
22.12.90 Cyprus v Italy 0-4
03.04.91 Cyprus v Hungary 0-2
17.04.91 Hungary v USSR 0-1
01.05.91 Italy v Hungary 3-1
01.05.91 Norway v Cyprus 3-0
29.05.91 USSR v Cyprus 4-0
05.06.91 Norway v Italy 2-1
28.08.91 Norway v USSR 0-1
25.09.91 USSR v Hungary 2-2
12.10.91 USSR v Italy 0-0
30.10.91 Hungary v Norway 0-0
13.11.91 Italy v Norway 1-1
13.11.91 Cyprus v USSR 0-3
21.12.91 Italy v Cyprus

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
SOVIET UNION	8	5	3	0	13	2	13
Norway	8	3	3	2	9	5	9
Italy	7	2	4	1	10	5	8
Hungary	8	2	4	2	10	9	8
Cyprus	7	0	0	7	2	23	0

GROUP 4

12.09.90 N.Ireland v Yugoslavia 0-2
12.09.90 Faroe Islands v Austria 1-0
10.10.90 Denmark v Faroe Islands 4-1
17.10.90 N.Ireland v Denmark 1-1
31.10.90 Yugoslavia v Austria 4-1
14.11.90 Denmark v Yugoslavia 0-2
14.11.90 Austria v N.Ireland 0-0
27.03.91 Yugoslavia v N.Ireland 4-1
01.05.91 Yugoslavia v Denmark 1-2
01.05.91 N.Ireland v Faroe Islands 1-1
16.05.91 Yugoslavia v Faroe Islands 7-0
22.05.91 Austria v Faroe Islands 3-0
05.06.91 Denmark v Austria 2-1
11.09.91 Faroe Islands v N.Ireland 0-5
25.09.91 Faroe Islands v Denmark 0-4
09.10.91 Austria v Denmark 0-3
16.10.91 Faroe Islands v Yugoslavia 0-2
16.10.91 N.Ireland v Austria 2-1
13.11.91 Denmark v N.Ireland 2-1
13.11.91 Austria v Yugoslavia 0-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
YUGOSLAVIA	8	7	0	1	24	4	14
Denmark	8	6	1	1	18	7	13
N.Ireland	8	2	3	3	11	11	7
Austria	8	1	1	6	6	14	3
Faroe Islands	8	1	1	6	3	26	3

GROUP 5

17.10.90 Wales v Belgium 3-1
31.10.90 Luxembourg v Germany 2-3
14.11.90 Luxembourg v Wales 0-1
27.02.91 Belgium v Luxembourg 3-0
27.03.91 Belgium v Wales 1-1
01.05.91 Germany v Belgium 1-0
05.06.91 Wales v Germany 1-0
11.09.91 Luxembourg v Belgium 0-2
16.10.91 Germany v Wales 4-1
13.11.91 Wales v Luxembourg 1-0
20.11.91 Belgium v Germany 0-1
17.12.91 Germany v Luxembourg

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Wales	6	4	1	1	8	6	9
Germany	5	4	0	1	9	4	8
Belgium	6	2	1	3	7	6	5
Luxembourg	5	0	0	5	2	10	0

GROUP 6

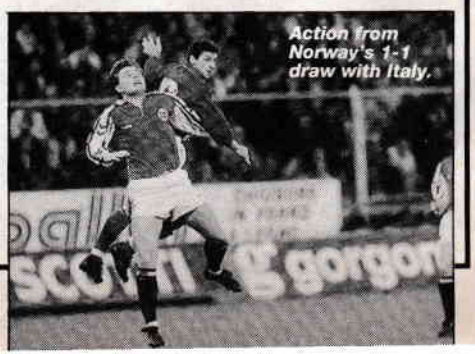
12.09.90 Finland v Portugal 0-0
17.10.90 Portugal v Holland 1-0
31.10.90 Greece v Malta 4-0
21.11.90 Holland v Greece 2-0
25.11.90 Malta v Finland 1-1
19.12.90 Malta v Holland 0-8
23.01.91 Greece v Portugal 3-2
09.02.91 Malta v Portugal 0-1
20.02.91 Portugal v Malta 5-0
13.03.91 Holland v Malta 1-0
17.04.91 Holland v Finland 2-0
16.05.91 Finland v Malta 2-0
05.06.91 Finland v Holland 1-1
11.09.91 Portugal v Finland 1-0
09.10.91 Finland v Greece 1-1
16.10.91 Holland v Portugal 1-0
30.10.91 Greece v Finland 2-0
20.11.91 Portugal v Greece 1-0
04.12.91 Greece v Holland
22.12.91 Malta v Greece

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Holland	7	5	1	1	15	2	11
Portugal	8	5	1	2	11	4	11
Greece	6	3	1	2	10	6	7
Finland	8	1	4	3	5	8	6
Malta	7	0	1	6	1	22	1

GROUP 7

17.10.90 England v Poland 2-0
17.10.90 Rep.of Ireland v Turkey 5-0
14.11.90 Rep.of Ireland v England 1-1
14.11.90 Turkey v Poland 0-1
27.03.91 England v Rep.of Ireland 1-1
17.04.91 Poland v Turkey 3-0
01.05.91 Turkey v England 0-1
01.05.91 Rep.of Ireland v Poland 0-0
16.10.91 Poland v Rep.of Ireland 3-3
16.10.91 England v Turkey 1-0
13.11.91 Turkey v Rep.of Ireland 1-3
13.11.91 Poland v England 1-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
ENGLAND	6	3	3	0	7	3	9
Rep.of Ireland	6	2	4	0	13	6	8
Poland	6	2	3	1	8	6	7
Turkey	6	0	0	6	1	14	0



Action from Norway's 1-1 draw with Italy.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY OCT 13

BELGIUM Weekend

Charleroi 0, Antwerp 1 (Czerniatynski 14). **Att:** 6,500.
Mechelen 2 (Patrick Verssavel 2, Emmers 20).
Gent 1 (Deferm 62 o.g.). **Att:** 10,250.
FC Liege 2 (Ernes 66, Varga 67). **Genk 0**. **Att:** 6,000.
Beveren 1 (Thoelens 75). **Aalst 1** (Van Peteghem 85). **Att:** 5,500.
Waregem 0, Anderlecht 1 (Degryse 89). **Att:** 10,500.
Molenbeek 1 (Verzauteren 1 pen), **Kortrijk 1** (Vidmar 55). **Att:** 5,000.
Cercle Brugge 1 (Weber 75), **Standard 4** (Vos 14, Demol 19, Asselman 25, Van Rooy 43). **Att:** 5,300.
Lokeren 2 (Schoofs 12, Lembi 60), **Club Brugge 3** (Staelens 27, 43, Van der Elst 64). **Att:** 10,000.
Ekeren 4 (Polley 11, 88, Ballenghien 39, Schmoller 89), **Lierse 2** (Van Kerckhoven 25, Simmes 73). **Att:** 4,500.

GERMANY Midweek

Stuttgarter Kickers 0, MSV Duisburg 1 (Woelk 48). **Att:** 10,000.

Weekend

VfL Bochum 1 (Milde 74), **Karlsruher SC 3** (Reichert 35, Schulterie 45, 90). **Att:** 10,000.
FC Nurnberg 4 (Eckstein 4, 45, Oechler 55, Wuck 84), **VfB Stuttgart 3** (Fritz Walter 16, Buchwald 65, Frontzeck 67). **Att:** 46,000.
Eintracht Frankfurt 0, Borussia Mg 0.**Att:** 33,000.
Dynamo Dresden 2 (Scholz 13, Gutschow 15), **Werder Bremen 1** (Neubarth 57). **Att:** 15,300.
Schalke 04 5 (Christensen 1, Guttier 11, Borodjuk 62, Leifeld 63, 86), **Hansa Rostock 0**. **Att:** 45,000.
Bayern Munich 0, Borussia Dortmund 3 (Rummenige 25, Povlsen 47, Munch 86 o.g.). **Att:** 27,000.
Hamburg SV 0, Wattenscheid 1 (Sane 74). **Att:** 18,065.
Kaiserslautern 2 (Witecze 64, Goldbaek 90), **Bayer Leverkusen 1** (Nehl 65). **Att:** 31,187.
FC Koln 1 (Banach 86), **MSV Duisburg 1** (Kober 23). **Att:** 18,000.
Stuttgarter Kickers 0, F. Dusseldorf 1 (Buskens 88). **Att:** 5,500.

GREECE

Korinthos 4, Doxa Drama 2
Ethnikos 2, Aris Salonica 1
Xanthi 2, Panionios 2
Athinaikos 2, AEK Athens 3
Serres 1, OFI Crete 0
Pierikos 1, Panathinaikos 3
Apollon 3, Panachaiki 1
Larissa 0, Olympiakos 0
PAOK 0, Heraklis 3

HOLLAND Weekend

Feyenoord 1 (De Wolf 16), **PSV Eindhoven 1** (Valckx 26). **Att:** 35,041.
Vitesse 0, FC Groningen 0. Att: 5,055.
SVV/Dordrecht 3 (Gorre 30, Boessen 63, Wouden 71), **De Graafschap 1** (Koolhof 87). **Att:** 1,000.
VVV 1 (Langerak 86), **FC Utrecht 1** (Bijl 27). **Att:** 4,044.
Roda JC 0, Fortuna Sittard 0. **Att:**3,500.
FC Den Haag 0, FC Twente 4 (Mulder 25, 42, Mkrkela 27, De Boer 59). **Att:** 3,500.
Ajax 4 (Petersson 63, 78, Winter 57, Roy 81).
Sparta 0. **Att:** 16,047.
Willem II 0, MVV 0. **Att:** 6,000.

SCOTLAND Midweek

Dundee United 0, Airdrie 0. Att: 5,763.
Dunfermline 0, Falkirk 4 (Cody 4, May 13, Godfrey 28, McAllister 51). **Att:** 5,454.
Motherwell 0, Celtic 2 (Coyne 33, Nicholas 48). **Att:**13,283.
Rangers 4 (McCoist 55, 82, Tortolano 62 o.g., Huistra 89), **Hibernian 2** (Weir 48, McGinlay 79). **Att:** 35,368.
Hearts 1 (Crabbe 10), **Aberdeen 0**. **Att:** 15,569.
St Mirren 1 (Torfason 10), **St Johnstone 1** (Wright 72). **Att:** 3,895.

Weekend

Aberdeen 3 (Ten Caat 8, Jess 60, 82), **Airdrie 1** (Gray 70). **Att:** 9,000.
Celtic 4 (Nicholas 13, 43, Coyne 46, Galloway 83), **Dundee United 1** (O' Neill 54). **Att:** 27,845.
Hearts 1 (McLaren 80), **Dunfermline 0**. **Att:** 9,002.
Motherwell 4 (O' Donnell 34, Cusack 64, 80, Kirk 75), **Falkirk 2** (Baptie 35, May 51). **Att:** 5,991
St Johnstone 2 (Curran 47, Wright 70), **Rangers 3** (McCoist 7, 44, Nisbet 76). **Att:** 10,322.
St Mirren 0, Hibernian 1 (McIntyre 34). **Att:** 4,550.

SWITZERLAND Weekend

Grasshoppers 0, Neuchatel Xamax 1 (Beat Sutter 77). **Att:** 4,100.
FC Luzern 0, FC Zurich 1 (Di Matteo 88). **Att:** 6,200.
Sion 2 (Baijic 2, Alexandre Rey 16). **St Gallen 1** (Zambrano 39). **Att:** 6,100.
Wettingen 0, Servette 3 (Jacobacci 11, Molnar 44, 67). **Att:** 1,700.
Young Boys 1 (Baumann 28), **Lugano 3** (Hertig 51, Graciani 63, Penzavalli 90). **Att:** 4,500.

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY OCT 20

AUSTRIA Weekend

Admira 2, Vorwarts Steyr 1
Kremser SC 2, Austria Wien 2
Austria Salzburg 3, St Polten 0
Vienna 1, Sturm Graz 1
Rapid Wien 3, DSV Alpine Donawitz 0
Stahl Linz 2, FC Tirol 0

BELGIUM Weekend

Genk 0, Standard 3 (Wilmots 24, 90, Van Rooij 70). **Att:** 10,000.
Anderlecht 3 (Boffin 27, 42, Bosman 79), **Molenbeek 0**. **Att:** 17,500.
Lierse 3 (Segers 33, Rekdal 74, 80), **Beveren 2** (Massagie 60, Van Vossen 64). **Att:** 7,000.
FC Liege 1 (Ernes 70), **Lokeren 1** (Myyry 49). **Att:** 5,000.
Gent 2 (Van der Linden 27, Porte 46), **Cercle Brugge 2** (Weber 42, 58). **Att:** 5,000.
Antwerp 2 (Czerniatynski 45, 59), **Mechelen 1** (Ingesson 65). **Att:** 6,000.
Club Brugge 0, Ekeren 0. **Att:** 7,500.
Kortrijk 2 (Ducoulombier 75, Edelmann 83), **Charleroi 1** (Silvagni 90). **Att:** 3,686.
Aalst 0, Waregem 4 (Descamps 44, 77, Boes 61, Abeels 72). **Att:** 6,000.

ENGLAND Weekend

Chelsea 2 (Jones 9, Myers 2), **Liverpool 2** (McManaman 4, Elliott 59 o.g.). **Att:** 30,230.
Coventry City 1 (Gynn 59 pen), **Crystal Palace 2** (Bright 44, Gabbiadini 81). **Att:** 10,591.
Everton 0, Aston Villa 2 (Regis 32, Daley 66). **Att:** 27,688.
Luton Town 2 (Harford 28, Nogan 80), **Sheffield Wed 2** (Hirst 44, Sheridan 88). **Att:** 9,401.
Manchester United 1 (Bruce 44), **Arsenal 1** (Rocastle 39). **Att:** 46,594.
Notts County 2 (Lund 12, Johnson 62), **Leeds United 4** (Chapman 19, Hodge 29, Whyte 48, McAllister 55). **Att:** 12,964.
Oldham Athletic 2 (McDonald 6, Breacker 40 o.g.), **West Ham United 2** (Small 35, McAvennie 82). **Att:** 14,365.
Sheffield United 4 (Whitehouse 14, Agana 27, Bryson 46, Hoyland 86), **Nottingham Forest 2** (Parker 28, Chettle 80). **Att:** 23,080.
Southampton 0, Norwich City 0. **Att:** 12,516.
Tottenham 0, Manchester City 1 (Quinn 76). **Att:** 30,502.
Wimbledon 0, QPR 1 (Bailey 81). **Att:** 4,630.

FRANCE Weekend

Sochaux 1 (Oudjani 78), **Lyon 0**. **Att:** 3,000.
Nimes 1 (Cantona 80 pen), **Lille 0**. **Att:** 13,694.
Toulouse 2 (Pavon 43, Debeve 52), **Cannes 0**. **Att:** 8,214.
Caen 2 (Pickeu 70, Gravelain 75), **Paris SG 0**. **Att:** 9,678.
St Etienne 1 (Tholot 42), **Marseille 0**. **Att:** 43,838.
Toulon 1 (Rodriguez 38 pen), **Rennes 0**. **Att:** 3,500.
Lens 0, Le Havre 0. **Att:** 10,000.
Metz 2 (Calderaro 23, 53), **Monaco 0**. **Att:**10,540.
Auxerre 3 (Vahirua 6, 58, Kovacs 60), **Nancy 1** (Zitelli). **Att:** 5,000.
Nantes 0, Montpellier 0. **Att:** 9,632.

GERMANY Weekend

Borussia Mg 1 (Salou 27), **Nurnberg 0**. **Att:** 19,000.
Werder Bremen 3 (Neubarth 19, Allofs 21, Bode 75), **VfL Bochum 0**. **Att:** 12,450.
MSV Duisburg 1 (Tonnies 77), **Kaiserslautern 1** (Hotic 87). **Att:** 23,000.
Wattenscheid 2 (Sane 57, Schupp 61), **Eintracht Frankfurt 4** (Bein 8, 78, Yeboah 46, Sippel 51). **Att:** 10,000.
F. Dusseldorf 1 (Allofs 36), **Schalke 04 1** (Sendscheid 13). **Att:** 40,000.
Hansa Rostock 3 (Wahl 46, Spies 51, Weichert 87), **Dynamo Dresden 0**. **Att:** 10,000.
Karlsruher SC 0, FC Koln 1 (Littbarski 85). **Att:** 17,000.
Bayer Leverkusen 1 (Buncol 65), **Hamburg SV 1** (Rohde 81). **Att:** 13,800.
VfB Stuttgart 3 (Gaudino 4, Walter 6, Dubajic 72), **Bayern Munich 2** (Berthold 23, Effenberg 80 pen). **Att:** 67,000.
Borussia Dortmund 3 (Nowodomski 66 o.g., Povlsen 78, Chapuisat [illegible]), **Stuttgarter Kickers 1** (Kula 69). **Att:** 35,000.

Action from Nurnberg's 4-3 victory over Stuttgart.

GREECE

Ethnikos 1, Korinthos 3
Doxa Drama 3, Xanthi 0
Aris Salonica 1, Athinaikos 0
Panionios 2, Serres 1
AEK Athens 2, Pierikos 0
OFI Crete 0, Apollon 0
Panathinaikos 1, Larissa 3
Panachaiki 3, PAOK 3
Heraklis 0, Olympiakos 0

HOLLAND Weekend

Fortuna Sittard 0, VVV 1 (Verberne 7). **Att:** 3,000.
FC Groningen 1 (Zygmantovitch 15), **FC Volendam 0**. **Att:** 13,248.
RKC 2 (Decheiver 30, Brands 43 pen), **Feyenoord 3** (Witschge 12 pen, Fraser 73, Kiprich 86). **Att:** 7,000.
PSV Eindhoven 3 (Bwalya 18, 60, Romario 21), **Ajax 2** (Bergkamp 28, Jonk 52). **Att:** 26,500.
Sparta 4 (Houtman 8, 78, Van der Gaag 38, 42), **FC Den Haag 0**. **Att:** 3,500.
FC Twente 1 (Mulder 27), **Roda JC 1** (Ter Avest 52). **Att:** 5,200.
FC Utrecht 1 (Pluqboer 47), **SVV/Dordrecht 1** (Sion 43). **Att:** 5,200.
De Graafschap 2 (Hofstede 69, Van Kessel 90), **Vitesse 0**. **Att:** 7,140.

ITALY Weekend

Cagliari 1 (Da Fonseca 29), **Internazionale 1** (Baggio 23). **Att:** 25,000.
Cremonese 2 (Gualco 2, Facalli 78), **Verona 0**. **Att:** 10,000.
Fiorentina 2 (Dunga 15, Orlando 90), **Bari 0**. **Att:** 26,850.
Foggia 1 (Signori 79), **Ascoli 0**. **Att:** 20,000.
Lazio 1 (G. Pin 35), **Genoa 1** (Aguilera 82). **Att:** 40,000.
AC Milan 2 (Gullit 60, Van Basten 82), **Parma 0**. **Att:** 65,000.
Napoli 0, Juventus 1 (De Agostini 47). **Att:** 75,300.
Sampdoria 0, Atalanta 2 (Bianchezi 52, Caniggia 66). **Att:** 30,000.
Torino 1 (Bresciani 21), **AS Roma 1** (Aldair 57). **Att:** 40,000.

PORTUGAL

Gil Vicente 0, Farense 0
Vit. Guimaraes 2, Boavista 0
Sp. Lisbon 3, Salgueiros 0
Estoril 2, Penafiel 2
Torriense 2, Uniao Madeira 0
Maritimo 0, Beira-Mar 0
Pacos Ferreira 1, Benfica 1
Chaves 1, Sp. Braga 2
FC Porto 1, Famalicao 0

SCOTLAND Weekend

Airdrie 4 (Boyle 35, Coyle 77, Watson 86, Kirkwood 90), **St Mirren 1** (Martin 79). **Att:** 2,500.
Dundee United 1 (French 11), **St. Johnstone 2** (Treanor 81 pen, Wright 85). **Att:** 6,202.
Dunfermline 0, Aberdeen 0. **Att:** 5,157.
Falkirk 4 (Grant 20 o.g., May 39, Stainrod 41, Duffy 63), **Celtic 3** (Collins 9, McStay 53, 84). **Att:** 11,600.
Hibernian 0, Motherwell 0. **Att:** 8,000.
Rangers 2 (McCoist 44, Michailichenko 50), **Hearts 0**. **Att:** 36,481.

SPAIN Weekend

Real Madrid 1 (Prosinecki 20), **Barcelona 1** (Koeman 56 pen). **Att:** 90,000.
Logrones 0, Sp Gijon 0. **Att:** 11,000.
La Coruna 3 (Uralde 1, Claudio 52, Fran 59), **Sevilla 1** Ramon 82). **Att:** 20,000.
Albacete 4 (Corbalan 40, 64, Ciganda 42 o.g., Larrazabal 45 o.g.), **Athletic Bilbao 0**. **Att:** 14,000.
Burgos 1 (Alejandro 55), **Valladolid 0**. **Att:** 11,000.
Mallorca 1 (Oliva 28 o.g.), **Cadiz 0**. **Att:** 13,000.
Espanol 2 (Escaich 1, Cuxart 52), **Tenerife 2** (Redondo 28, Julio Llorente 89). **Att:** 18,000.
Real Sociedad 3 (Luis Perez 1, Alkiza 51, Oceano 88 pen), **Valencia 1** (Roberto 69). **Att:** 19,000.
Zaragoza 2 (Mateut 8, Higuera 22), **Osasuna 0**. **Att:** 20,000.
Oviedo 0, Atletico Madrid 1 (Vizcaino 53). **Att:** 18,930.

SWITZERLAND Midweek

Aarau 1, Young Boys 4
Lugano 0, Lausanne Sports 3
Neuchatel 2, Wettingen 1
St Gallen 2, FC Luzern 1
Servete 2, Grasshoppers 1
FC Zurich 4, Sion 2

Weekend

Grasshoppers 1, Lugano 1
Lausanne Sports 2, Zurich 0
FC Luzern 0, Aarau 0
Sion 2, Servette 3
Wettingen 1, St Gallen 3
Young Boys 2, Neuchatel Xamax 0

SOUTH AMERICAN RESULTS

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT — CONCACAF ZONE

Third round — Group A: Mexico 6 Surinam 0 (Sept 16); Honduras 2 Surinam 0 (Sept 24). Group C: Panama 2 Haiti 2 (Sept 21).

Group A

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Honduras	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Mexico	4	1	2	1	8	3	4
Surinam	3	0	1	2	1	9	1

Group C

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
USA	4	3	1	0	18	2	7
Panama	3	0	2	1	4	10	2
Haiti	3	0	1	2	2	12	1

INTER-AMERICAN CUP ***(between Libertadores Cup and CONCACAF club championship winners)***
October 1 (1st leg) In Asuncion, Paraguay.
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) 1 (Gonzalez)
AMERICA (Mexico) 1 (Edu)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Francisco Lamolina (Argentina). **Att:** 15,000.
Olimpia: Battaglia, Caceres, Ramirez, Delgado, Suarez, Balbuena, Guasch, Guirland, Gomez (Campos), Torres (Franco), Gonzalez.
America: Garcia, Hernandez, Vaca, Rodon, De los Santos, Dominguez, Cordova, Farfan, Carlos Santos, Edu (Canas), Alves.

● Olimpia were well on top for most of the time, missed chances, hit the woodwork and were also stopped by good goalkeeping performance of Garcia.

October 12 (2nd leg)
In Mexico City, Mexico.
AMERICA (Mexico) 2
OLIMPIA (Paraguay) 1
(America won 2-1 on aggregate)

● The match was stopped temporarily by fighting after 50 minutes when America coach Carlos Miloc ran on the field to attack Olimpia player Fermin Balbuena. Then Olimpia players went for the coach, knocking him to the ground and kicking him.

SOUTH AMERICAN SUPER CUP
(for Libertadores Cup winners)
October 13
First round, 1st legs
In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
RIVER PLATE (Argentina) 2 (Sponton, Higuain)
GREMIO (Brazil) 2 (Caio, Alcindo)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Enrique Marin (Chile). **Att:** 15,000.
River Plate: Comizzo, Gordillo, Higuain, Rivarola, Enrique, Toresani, Astrada, Borrelli, Berti (Lavallen), Sponton, R. Diaz.
Gremio: Sidmar, Polaco, Joao Marcelo, Wilson, Lira, Juninho (Bizu), Pino, Groto, Renato, Caio, Alcindo.

● River Plate were more attack-minded, but made defensive mistakes which let in Gremio and the Argentine team had to fight from behind twice to equalize against a renewed Gremio which spent heavily to strengthen its team after being relegated from its national championship first division earlier this year

In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
ARGENTINOS JUNIORS (Argentina) 1 (Trapasso)
SANTOS (Brazil) 2 (Paulinho, Pedro Paulo)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Jorge Nieves (Uruguay). **Att:** 1,250.
Argentinos Juniors: Mendoza (Chabala), Cejas, Caceres (Traverso), Rodriguez, Nieves, Zermatten, Gancedo, Cagna, Trapasso, Gonzalez, Sanchez.
Santos: Nilton, Indio, Pedro Paulo, Luiz Carlos, Veiga, Ze Renato (Carlinhos), Sergio Santos, Sergio Manuel, Almir, Paulinho, Luizinho (Tato).

● Argentinos, weakened through injury and suspensions, also had reserve goalkeeper Mendoza (and Caceres, broken arm) injured during the match and Santos were the better team for most of the time. The match, played in front of an exceptionally small crowd, was chiefly notable for providing Santos' first ever victory in a Super Cup match and the debut of Argentinos third choice goalkeeper Chabala, the first Zambian to appear in Argentine soccer.

In Montevideo, Uruguay.
PENAROL (Uruguay) 3 (S. Martinez 2, A. Martinez)
RACING CLUB (Argentina) 2 (Suescun, Garcia)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Renato Marsiglia (Brazil).
Penarol: Alvez, Dominguez, Rosa, Sanchez, Blanco, A. Martinez, Dorta, Cedres (Vieira), S. Martinez, Paulinho, W. Castro (Anzard).
Racing: Bartero, Vallejos, Borelli, Fabbri, Reinoso, Basualdo, Marini (Guendulain), J. Diaz, Carranza (Paz), Garcia, Suescun.

● Penarol were two goals up in 21 minutes and led 3-0 after 55 minutes, but Racing managed to even up the game when Ruben Paz came on as a sub against his old club and the Argentine team fought back towards the end to score twice in the last 25 minutes, more through enthusiasm than skill against rivals who slowed down too soon. Reinoso (R) and Paulinho (P) were sent off for fighting 20 minutes from the end

In Brasilia, Brazil.
FLAMENGO (Brazil) 1 (Junior)
ESTUDIANTES DE LA PLATA (Argentina) 1 (Aredes)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Jorge Antequera (Bolivia).
Flamengo: Gilmar, Gotardo, Rogerio, Zinho, Pia, Videmar (Marcelinho), Charles, Junior, Narquinho, Gaucho, Nunes.
Estudiantes: Merlo, Prattola, Trotta, Erbin, Ramirez, Peinado, Balugano, Ortega (Soto), Aredes, Capria, Villalonga (Iribarren).

● After an uncertain start, with veteran Junior standing out for Flamengo and putting them ahead after 15 minutes, Estudiantes gained a valuable away draw, equalising 11 minutes after the break and then holding out with 10 men for the last 20 minutes and nine for the last 12 as Prattola and Balugano were sent off.

In Belo Horizonte, Brazil.
CRUZEIRO (Brazil) 0
COLO COLO (Chile) 0
Ref: Juan C. Crespo (Argentina). **Att:** 50,000.
Cruzeiro: Paulo Cesar, Paulao, Adilson, Nonato, Ademir, Boyadero, Luis Fernando, Mario Tilico, Charles, Marquinho.
Colo Colo: Moron, Garrido, Ramirez, Peralta, Vilches, Salvatierra, Mendoza, Barticciotto, Yanez, Adomaitis, Martinez.

● Cruzeiro dominated more and came closer to scoring on a rain-drenched field with Colo Colo playing defensively for a point.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina.
BOCA JUNIORS (Argentina) 1 (Pico)
NACIONAL (Uruguay) 1 (Dely Valez)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Jose R. Wright (Brazil). **Att:** 7,000.
Boca Juniors: Navarro Montoya, Sonora, Giuntini, Marchesini, Moya (Palavecino), Cabrera, Giuna, Pico (Todriguez), Cabanas, Mohamed, Amato.
Nacional: Sere, Gomez, Revelez, W. Cabrera, Pinto Saldanha, Moran, Cardaccio, Noe, Ramos, Nunez (Borges), Dely Valdez.

SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICAN TABLES

ARGENTINA: National A Division (opening championship)

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
River Plate	8	8	0	0	15	3	16
Talleres	8	6	2	0	13	5	14
Boca Juniors	8	5	2	1	14	9	12
Gimnasia	8	4	2	2	7	6	10
Velez	8	4	1	3	14	7	9
Union SF	8	2	5	1	8	7	9
Arg.Juniors	8	2	4	2	7	7	8
San Lorenzo	8	1	6	1	4	4	8
Huracan	8	2	4	2	7	11	8
Independiente	8	2	3	3	6	6	7
Dep. Espanol	8	3	1	4	8	9	7
Rosario Central	8	2	3	3	7	8	7
Dep.Mandiyu	8	2	3	3	7	9	7
Estudiantes	8	1	5	2	3	6	7
FC Oeste	8	2	2	4	6	8	6
Platense	8	1	4	3	5	8	6
B. Cordoba	8	1	4	3	4	8	6
Newell's	8	1	3	4	4	9	5
Racing Club	8	0	4	4	4	8	4
Quilmes	8	1	2	5	3	8	4

Bottom relegation averages (average points over last three seasons — bottom two go down to B division): Union and Platense 0,916: Belgrano 0,875; Dep. Espanol 0,785; Quilmes 0,500.

URUGUAY: First Division

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Nacional	18	9	6	3	25	15	24
Central Espanol	18	8	8	2	21	15	24
Defensor	18	8	6	4	19	10	22
Penarol	18	7	8	3	22	18	22
Danubio	18	8	4	6	20	14	20
Liverpool	18	4	10	3	16	13	20
Wanderers	18	5	9	4	16	17	19
Cerro	18	5	7	6	15	14	17
Huracan	18	7	3	8	22	22	17
Bella	18	3	10	5	18	25	16
Racing Club	18	4	7	7	14	21	15
Progreso	18	3	7	8	17	24	13
Sisley	18	3	6	9	11	20	12
Rentistas	18	2	7	9	12	20	11

BRAZIL — State Championships
Guanabara (Rio) State: 1st round (final): 1. Fluminense 19 points; 2. Flamengo 17; 3. Botafogo 16; 4. Vasco da Gama 15; 5. Campo Grande 12; 6. Americano 10; 7. Bangu 9; 8. America (Rio), Itaperuna 8; 10. America (Tres Rios) 7; 11. Portuguesa, Volta Redonda 6.
2nd round — 3 games: 1. Flamengo 5; 2 Botafogo, Campo Grande 4; 4. Fluminense 3; 5. Vasco da Gama, America (Tres Rios), Sao Cristovao, Goytacaz, Americano, Bangu, Itaperuna, America (Rio) 2.
Sao Paulo State — Green group: 1.

Guarani, Corinthians 27 pts; 3. Palmeiras 26; 4. Bragantino, Botafogo 25; 6. Portuguesa 24; 7. Ituano, Santos 22; 9. XV de Piracicaba, America 21; 11. XV de Jau 20; 12. Ferroviaria 19; 13. Mogi Mirim 17; 14. Novorizontino 16.
Yellow group: 1. Sao Paulo 36; 2. Internacional, Saocarlense 26; 4. Santo Andre 25; 5. Rio Branco, Juventus, Ponte Preta, Noroeste 24; 9. Uniau Sao Joro 21; 10. Marilia, Sao Jose 17; 12. Olimpia 16; 13. Sao Vento, Catanduvense 15. *(Top 5 of green group and top 3 of yellow group will qualify for second round).*

CHILE: First Division

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Colo Colo	21	13	5	3	41	16	31
Coquimbo	21	11	6	4	28	21	28
O'Higgins	21	10	6	5	34	23	26
Antofagasta	21	8	9	4	18	15	25
Univ. Catolica	21	11	3	6	38	28	25
Cobreloa	21	10	4	7	43	25	24
Concepcion	21	8	8	5	30	28	24
Fernandez Vial	21	8	5	8	17	20	21
Univ. Chile	21	6	6	9	29	26	18
Everton	21	6	6	9	18	25	18
Dep. La Serena	21	7	4	10	29	38	18
Cobresal	21	5	7	9	25	27	17
Union Espanola	21	6	4	11	25	32	16
Palestino	21	3	10	8	22	34	16
Osorno	21	5	5	11	27	43	15
Wanderers	21	3	8	16	17	39	14

PERU: Decentralized Championship — Metropolitan Division

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Universitario	14	9	4	1	23	9	22
Defensor Lima	14	10	4	1	23	9	22
Sport Boys	14	7	5	2	21	13	19
Alianza Lima	14	6	5	3	20	11	17
Sporting	14	6	5	3	20	14	17
Yurimaguas	14	6	4	4	18	14	16
San Agustin	14	6	3	5	20	12	15
Municipal	14	4	4	6	15	20	12
Huaral	14	3	4	7	13	21	10
Internazionale	14	1	6	7	9	21	8
Espinosa	14	2	1	11	10	26	5
AELU	14	1	3	10	5	23	5

ECUADOR: First Division (3rd stage)
Group 1: 1) Barcelona 8 pts; 2) Valdez 7.5; 3) Tecnico Universitario 5; 4) Green Cross 4.
Group 2: 1) Deportivo Quito 7; 2) Nacional, Emelec 5.5; 4) Liga Deportiva Universitaria 4,5. *(One game to go — top two of each group qualify for final round.)*

COLOMBIA: Professional League

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
At. Junior	35	18	10	7	64	39	46
Quindio	36	18	7	11	45	35	43
Bucaramnaga	36	17	9	10	55	40	43
America	35	16	11	8	56	38	43
Indep. Medellin	36	16	11	9	49	35	43
Millonarios	35	15	13	7	54	36	43
Nacional	36	15	13	8	53	36	43
Indep.Santa Fe	35	16	8	11	52	45	40
Union Magdalena	36	13	12	11	45	42	38
Caldas	35	12	10	13	50	57	34
Dep. Cali	35	11	11	13	33	33	33
Sporting	35	7	7	21	38	62	21
Pereira	35	6	9	20	25	46	21
Tolima	35	6	8	21	22	62	20
Cucuta	35	4	11	20	21	38	19

(Top 8 qualify for final round)

BOLIVIA: Professional Championship (2nd phase)
1) Bolivar, San Jose 11 points; 3) Jorge Wilsterman 9; 4) The Strongest 8; 5) Oriente Petrolero, Blooming 7; 7) Orcobol, Petrolero 6; 9) Independiente 5; 10) Real Santa Cruz, Ciclon 4; 12) Chaco 2; 13) Destroyers 1; 14) Always Ready 0.

PARAQUAY: First Division (2nd stage)
1) Cerro Porteno, Sol de America 13; 3) Olimpia, Guarani, Nacional 11; 6) Atletico Colegiales 10; 7) Cerro Cora, San Lorenzo 9; 9) Sportivo Luqueno 7; 10) River Plate, Sport Colombia 5; 12) Libertad 4. *(Top four qualify for final round with top four of first stage — Olimpia, Cerro Cora, Atletico Colegiales and Sportivo Luqueno.).*

MEXICO: First Division (after six games)
Group 1: 1) Atlas 8 pts; 2) Veracruz 6; 3) Univ. Autonama Mexico 4; 4) Cobras, Univ. Autonoma Guadalajara 3.
Group 2: 1) Puebia 6; 2) Guadalajara, Monterrey, Univ. Autonoma Tamaulipas, Queretaros 5.
Group 3: 1) Cruz Azul, Necaxa, Leon 7.; 4) Santos 6; 5) Toluca 4. Group 4: 1) Morelia 8; 2) America, Atlante 7; 4) Univ. Nuevo Leon 6; 5) Universidad Guadalajara 5.

GUATELMALA: First Division (after 8 games)
1) Dep. Izabal, Municipal, Chiquimulilla 11; 4) Comunicaciones, Escuintla 9; 6) Juventud Retalteca, Galcasa 8; 8) Aurora 7; 9) Del Monte, Suchitepequez, Xelaju 6; 12) Tipografia 4.
EL SALVADOR: First Division (after 8 games)
1) Alianza 12 pts; 2) Marte, Luis Angel Firpo, Aguila, Metapan 9; 6) FAS 8; 7) Tiburones, Baygon-ADET, San Francisco 6; 10) Cojutepeque 4.

HONDURAS: First Division
1) Real Espana, Motagua 26 pts; 3) Olimpia, Victoria, Vida 19; 6) Platense 17; 7) Marathon, Petrotela 16; 9) Atletico Indio, Super-Estrella 13.

INTERNATIONAL TABLES

PSV boss Bobby Robson.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Derry City	13	8	3	2	13	2	19
Shelbourne	13	8	3	2	20	10	19
Dundalk	13	7	4	2	18	8	18
Shamrock Rov.	13	5	7	1	12	4	17
St Patrick's	13	5	5	3	16	17	15
Bohemians	13	5	4	4	18	14	14
Cork City	13	3	7	3	14	15	13
Bray Wand.	13	4	3	6	8	15	11
Sligo Rovers	13	2	6	5	12	13	10
Drogheda	13	2	6	5	9	15	10
Athlone Town	13	1	4	8	8	20	6
Galway United	13	1	2	10	13	28	4

NORTHERN IRELAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Linfield	8	6	2	0	17	2	20
Glentoran	8	6	1	1	21	9	19
Portadown	8	5	1	2	14	5	16
Ards	8	4	3	1	17	12	15
Larne	8	4	2	2	13	11	14
Glenavon	7	4	1	2	13	9	13
Ornagh	8	4	0	4	12	9	12
Ballymena	8	3	1	4	14	11	10
Crusaders	8	3	1	4	14	11	10
Ballyclare	8	2	3	3	14	17	9
Coleraine	8	2	3	3	11	15	9
Cliftonville	8	2	1	5	7	16	7
Newry	8	2	0	6	5	15	6
Carrick	8	1	3	4	8	16	5
Distillery	7	1	2	4	8	16	5
Bangor	8	1	1	6	10	22	4

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds Utd	16	9	6	1	27	12	33
Man United	15	9	5	1	23	7	32
Man City	16	9	2	5	22	17	29
Aston Villa	16	8	3	5	22	15	27
Crystal Palace	15	8	3	4	22	25	27
Arsenal	15	7	4	4	30	20	25
Sheff Wed	16	7	4	5	26	20	25
Norwich	16	5	8	3	19	17	23
Everton	16	6	4	6	23	21	22
Chelsea	16	5	7	4	24	23	22
Liverpool	14	5	6	3	15	12	21
Tottenham	13	6	2	5	22	18	20
Nottm Forest	15	6	2	7	25	24	20
Coventry	16	6	2	8	16	15	20
West Ham	16	4	7	5	17	19	19
Wimbledon	16	5	3	8	22	24	18
Notts County	16	5	3	8	19	26	18
Oldham	15	4	4	7	20	23	16
QPR	16	3	6	7	14	23	15
Southampton	16	3	4	9	13	26	13
Sheff Utd	16	3	3	10	22	33	12
Luton	16	2	4	10	9	35	10

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hearts	19	13	4	2	27	15	30
Rangers	19	13	3	3	48	14	29
Aberdeen	19	11	3	5	27	14	25
Celtic	19	10	4	5	42	24	24
Dundee Utd	19	8	7	4	33	23	23
Hibernian	19	7	9	3	27	22	23
Motherwell	19	6	5	8	20	23	17
Falkirk	19	6	5	8	29	33	17
St Johnstone	19	7	3	9	21	32	17
Airdrie	19	5	3	11	24	36	13
St Mirren	19	1	4	14	14	39	6
Dunfermline	19	1	2	16	10	47	4

ALBANIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vllaznia	10	8	1	1	21	5	17
Partizani	11	6	3	2	14	7	15
Laci	11	6	1	4	13	10	13
Besa	[illegible]	[illegible]	0	5	27	19	12
Tomori	[illegible]	4	4	2	12	5	12
Lushnja	11	5	2	4	11	11	12
Apolonia	11	5	1	5	17	15	11
Teuta	10	3	4	3	9	5	10
Pogradeci	10	3	3	4	9	13	9
Selenica	10	4	1	5	10	20	9
Dinamo	9	3	2	4	9	8	8
El Basani	10	3	2	5	9	12	8
Kastrioti	11	4	0	7	10	24	8
Flamurtari	9	5	2	2	14	7	6
Tirana	11	2	2	7	8	13	6
Skenderbeu	9	0	2	7	3	21	2

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Austria Szg	20	14	2	4	35	15	20
FK Austria	20	12	5	3	48	21	29
FC Tirol	20	9	6	5	35	23	24
Rapid	20	9	6	5	35	23	24
Stahl Linz	20	9	6	5	31	22	24
Admira Wacker	20	9	6	5	29	20	24
Vorwaerts S	20	7	3	10	26	24	17
St Polten	20	5	6	9	22	32	16
Sturm Graz	20	6	2	11	19	31	15
SC Krems	20	4	6	10	21	37	14
Vienna	20	4	6	10	18	38	14
DSV Alpine	20	1	6	13	10	43	8

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slovan	13	11	2	0	31	7	24
S. Olomouc	13	9	4	0	30	7	22
Slavia	13	9	3	2	35	9	20
Sparta	13	8	1	4	26	10	17
Banik Ostrava	13	7	3	3	27	16	17
Tatran Presov	13	7	2	4	13	17	16
Inter	13	6	3	4	20	14	15
Dunajska	13	5	1	7	21	18	11
Dukla Prague	13	3	4	6	15	21	10
D. Banska	13	3	4	0	14	22	10
Bohemians	13	3	4	6	14	23	10
Spk. Trnava	13	1	6	6	7	22	9
Vitkovice	13	3	2	8	17	34	8
H. Kralove	13	2	2	9	7	19	7
Budejovice	13	3	1	9	12	31	7
Union Cheb	13	2	2	9	10	31	7

FINLAND — FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kuusysi	33	16	11	6	57	35	59
MP	33	17	7	9	60	36	58
Haka	33	16	6	11	59	37	54
Jaro	33	14	11	8	46	33	52
HJK	33	14	9	10	61	44	51
Ilves	33	13	12	8	51	39	51
RoPs	33	14	8	11	63	51	50
PPT	33	11	1	12	32	44	43
TPS	33	11	10	12	47	56	43
KUPS	33	8	13	12	54	54	37
OTP	33	7	11	15	33	53	32
Reipas	33	2	2	29	17	118	8

Top scorers: 23, Tarkkio (Haka); 21, Belfield (Kuusysi). **Cup Final:** TPS Turku 0, Kuusysi Lahti 0 (TPS won 5-3 on penalties).

GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Eintracht	18	9	5	4	41	22	23
VfB Stuttgart	18	9	4	5	32	18	22
Kaiserslautern	18	9	4	5	30	18	22
Bor. Dortmund	18	8	6	4	32	29	22
B. Leverkusen	18	6	8	4	19	16	20
Duisburg	18	5	10	3	24	22	20
Schalke	18	7	5	6	28	22	19
Nuremberg	18	7	5	6	28	24	19
Werder Bremen	18	7	5	6	23	21	19
Karlsruhe	18	7	5	6	24	28	19
Cologne	18	3	12	3	24	24	18
Hamburg	18	5	8	5	18	21	18
Bayern Munich	18	5	7	6	23	26	17
Hasa Rostock	18	6	4	8	27	29	16
Stuttgart	18	5	5	8	26	28	15
Dyn. Dresden	18	5	5	8	14	24	15
Bochum	18	5	5	8	20	31	15
F. Dusseldorf	18	5	4	9	23	31	14
Borrusia Mg.	18	5	4	9	15	27	14
Wattenscheid	18	3	7	8	19	29	13

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
PSV	14	10	4	0	35	16	24
Feyenoord	16	9	6	1	23	9	24
Ajax	14	9	2	3	35	10	20
Twente	16	8	4	4	32	20	20
Vitesse	16	7	5	4	23	14	19
Sparta	15	6	6	3	26	25	18
Roda JC	16	6	5	5	21	21	17
Utrecht	15	4	8	3	16	13	16
RKC Waalwijk	16	5	6	5	31	27	16
Maastricht	16	4	7	5	14	18	15
Groningen	14	4	6	4	20	17	14
Volendam	15	5	3	7	15	17	13
SVV/Dordrecht	15	5	3	7	25	37	13
Willem II	15	3	5	7	15	22	11
Sittard	16	1	8	7	16	27	10
Den Haag	14	2	5	7	11	32	9
De Graafschap	15	2	3	10	14	28	7

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vac	13	5	7	1	25	15	17
Kispest Honved	13	7	3	3	22	13	17
Siofok	13	8	1	4	21	14	17
Pecs	13	6	5	2	9	5	17
MTK VM	13	6	3	4	22	11	15
Ujpest	13	4	7	2	19	14	15
Ferencvaros	13	4	7	2	14	9	15
Videoton	13	4	7	2	16	13	15
Mavtranssped	13	5	4	4	17	13	14
Vasas	13	5	3	5	13	11	13
Haladas	13	4	4	5	12	14	12
Raba Eto	13	3	5	5	12	14	11
Veszprem	13	3	4	6	10	19	10
Diosgyor	13	3	3	7	10	22	9
Tatabanya	13	1	6	6	8	22	8
Zalaegerszeg	13	0	3	10	7	28	3

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Milan	9	7	2	0	15	3	16
Juventus	10	6	3	1	11	4	15
Foggia	10	5	3	2	16	10	13
Lazio	10	4	5	1	14	8	13
Napoli	10	4	5	1	13	7	13
Internazionale	10	4	5	1	9	8	13
Torino	10	3	5	2	8	5	11
Atalanta	10	4	3	3	9	7	11
Parma	10	2	7	1	9	9	11
Roma	10	3	5	2	8	9	11
Fiorentina	10	3	3	4	9	8	9
Genoa	9	3	3	3	8	9	9
Sampdoria	10	3	2	5	15	12	8
Verona	10	3	1	6	8	16	7
Cagliari	10	2	2	6	6	12	6
Cremonese	10	1	3	6	5	12	5
Ascoli	10	1	2	7	5	18	4
Bari	10	0	3	7	5	16	3

JAPAN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Yomiuri	7	5	2	0	16	5	17
Nissan	7	5	2	0	12	3	17
Yamaha	7	4	1	1	11	11	13
Honda	7	2	4	1	8	7	10
Hitachi	7	3	1	3	11	14	10
Toyota	7	2	3	2	9	8	9
Matsushita	7	2	3	2	7	9	9
JRE Furukawa	7	2	1	4	11	13	7
Mazda	7	2	0	5	12	13	6
Mitsubishi	7	1	3	3	9	14	6
All Nippon Airways	7	1	2	4	7	11	5
Toshiba	7	0	4	3	9	14	4

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Partizan	14	10	3	1	26	6	21
Red Star	14	9	2	3	35	12	20
Zemun	14	8	2	4	26	14	17
Belgrade	14	7	5	2	27	16	16
Proleter	14	7	2	5	21	18	16
Vardar	14	6	3	5	21	14	14
Sarajevo	14	6	3	5	13	14	13
Zeljeznicar	14	5	3	6	15	18	13
Vojvodina	14	6	1	7	13	18	13
Borac	14	5	5	4	10	10	12
Radnicki	14	5	1	8	16	20	11
Pelister	14	5	2	7	15	27	11
Sloboda	14	5	1	8	14	23	11
Rad	14	5	2	7	19	23	10
Velez	14	4	2	8	15	26	10
Sutjeska	14	4	1	9	17	24	8
Buducnost	14	3	5	6	10	14	7
Spartak	14	3	3	8	10	26	6

SPAIN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Real Madrid	10	9	1	0	24	5	19
At. Madrid	10	8	0	2	14	4	16
Gijon	10	6	2	2	12	9	14
Burgos	10	5	3	2	12	6	13
Zaragoza	10	5	3	2	14	8	13
Valencia	10	5	2	3	11	9	12
Barcelona	10	5	2	3	19	12	12
Sevilla	10	5	1	4	16	12	11
Logrones	10	4	2	4	9	14	10
Oviedo	10	4	2	4	11	10	10
Real Sociedad	10	3	3	4	8	10	9
Osasuna	10	4	0	6	7	13	8
Albacete	10	4	0	6	11	13	8
Valladolid	10	3	1	6	8	11	7
Tenerife	10	2	3	5	10	14	7
Cadiz	10	3	1	6	6	10	7
Espanol	10	2	3	5	10	15	7
La Coruna	10	2	2	6	7	15	6
Ath. Bilbao	10	2	2	6	6	16	6
Mallorca	10	2	1	7	4	11	5

SWEDEN — FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
IFK Goteborg	10	6	0	4	15	10	36
Norrkoping	10	6	2	2	17	10	31
Oerebro	10	3	2	5	8	13	28
Malmo FF	10	4	3	3	8	12	27
Djurgaarden	10	3	4	3	15	13	26
AIK Stockholm	10	3	0	7	10	15	23

Top scorers: 13 Andersson (IFK Goteborg); 11, Dahlin (Malmo FF).

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lausanne	19	10	9	0	41	14	29
Grasshopper	19	10	5	4	34	22	25
Sion	19	7	9	3	30	20	23
Servette	19	9	5	5	34	27	23
Neuchatel	19	7	5	7	24	20	19
St Gallen	18	7	4	7	23	29	18
Young Boys	19	7	4	8	29	27	18
Lugano	19	6	6	7	21	30	18
FC Zurich	18	4	8	6	20	23	16
Lucerne	19	4	8	7	20	26	16
Aarau	19	3	7	9	20	35	13
Wettingen	19	1	6	12	18	41	8

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Besiktas	10	8	2	0	24	9	26
Fenerbahce	10	8	1	1	25	10	25
Galatasaray	10	7	2	1	12	6	23
Trabzonspor	10	5	2	3	21	11	17
Genclerbirligi	10	4	4	2	18	16	16
Aydinspor	10	4	3	3	12	15	15
Sariyer	10	4	1	5	11	13	13
Gaziantepspor	10	3	3	4	12	13	12
Ankaragucu	10	2	5	3	12	13	11
Bursaspor	10	3	2	5	11	12	11
Boluspor	10	2	4	4	12	14	10
Konyaspor	10	2	3	5	13	15	9
Bakirkoyspor	10	2	3	5	14	18	9
Altay	10	2	3	5	10	15	9
Adanademirspor	10	2	3	5	10	22	9
Samsunspor	10	0	3	7	10	25	3

ICELAND — FINAL TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Vikingur	18	12	1	5	36	21	37
Fram	18	11	4	3	29	15	37
KR	18	8	4	6	34	18	28
Valur	18	8	2	8	30	24	26
UBK	18	7	5	6	26	27	26
KA	18	7	4	7	21	23	25
IBV	18	7	3	8	28	36	24
FH	18	6	4	8	26	32	22
Stiarnan	18	4	6	8	23	27	18
Vidir	18	2	3	13	17	47	9

Top scorers: 13, Steinsson (Vikingur), Magnusson (FH).

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brondby	18	8	8	2	30	18	24
Lyngby	18	7	7	3	32	18	23
B 1903	18	8	5	5	32	26	21
Aab Aalborg	18	6	7	5	29	25	19
AGF Aarhus	18	6	7	5	19	19	19
Frem	18	5	7	6	25	27	17
Naestved	18	6	4	8	33	34	16
Silkeborg	18	6	4	8	24	30	16
Vejle	18	5	2	10	23	30	14
OB Odense	18	4	3	11	28	49	11

EUROPEAN SUPERCUP

Nov 19 — Old Trafford (single match)
Manchester United 1 (Brian McClair 67)
Red Star Belgrade 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 22,110. **Ref:** Van der Ende (Hol).
Man Utd: Schmeichel — Martin (Giggs 71), Irwin, Bruce, Webb, Pallister, Kanchelskis, Ince, McClair, Hughes, Blackmore.
Red Star: Milojevic — Radinovic, Vasilijevic, Tanjga, Belodedic, Najdoski, Stosic, Jugovic, Pancev, Savicevic (Ivic 82), Mihajlovic.

RED STAR CHASE SUPER CONSOLATION ON TOP OF THE WORLD

By KEIR **RADNEDGE**

RED STAR Belgrade intend to succeed in Tokyo where they failed at Old Trafford.

Beaten 1-0 by Manchester United in the European Supercup, the champions of Europe go to the World Club Cup showdown with Colo Colo on December 8 with a significantly weaker team than the one which squeezed past Marseille last May.

The gaps in skill and confidence were evident at Old Trafford — at least for those whose knowledge of Red Star last term extended beyond the craven exhibition in Bari.

Red Star, for most of last season, displayed skilled football of a high standard. From defence through to attack their players interchanged their own positions and the ball and their tactics with exciting dexterity. But Red Star, at Old Trafford, were rather more ponderous.

This is not to blame new coach Vladimir Popovic. He played against the immediately pre-Munich Busby Babes for Red Star and no doubt visiting Old Trafford was an emotional experience for him. But it will also have left him in no doubt of the need to raise his men's game for Tokyo.

In the Champions' Cup Red Star have cruised along with simple victories over Portadown of Northern Ireland and Apollon of Cyprus. This opposition — nor that in the readjusted Yugoslav championship — could provide the quality test to cope with the pressures of Manchester or Japan.

Red Star made a financial profit of around £200,00 from the single-match outing in the Supercup. But that cannot buy replacements needed for the likes of Stojanovic, Binic and Robert Prosinecki. Indeed, they might have been punished more heavily. In the early minutes at Old Trafford sweeper Miodrag Belodedic deflected a Steve Bruce header with his hand after a cross from Lee Martin.

Red Star escaped courtesy of goalkeeper Milojevic, who guessed by moving to his right and happily found Bruce's spot-kick heading in the same direction.

UEFA had lifted the controversial foreigners restriction for this game but United still lacked the long-time injured Lee Sharpe as well as suspended skipper Bryan Robson.

They were rarely able to embarrass the Slav defence but — Savicevic impressively apart — Red Star created similarly little on the break. He and Darko Pancev each forced United to clear off the goal-line in the first half. But Slav spirit subsided once Brian McClair had shot what proved the only goal when a Neil Webb drive rebounded from a post midway through the second half.

United collected the victorious cheers which may serve as some consolation for their failure to successfully defend the European Cup-winners' Cup. As for Red Star, they left Old Trafford with a chance to redeem themselves and become the first eastern European team to win the World Club crown.

Red Star against Colo Colo is not, it must be admitted, the most attractive of matches. An added hindrance for sponsors Toyota is that is will take place on the same day — albeit 21 hours earlier — as the World Cup qualifying draw in New York.

Havoc

Hopefully, it will at least extend the peace which now exists between old world and new in the event.

Long gone, it seems, are the bad-tempered days of the 1960s — such as 1963, when a play-off in Rio between Pele's Santos and Italy's Milan saw the expulsion — among others — of Milan's normally placid skipper Cesare Maldini, and the insertion of 19 stitches in a head wound suffered by goalkeeper Balzarini.

In 1967 Celtic and Racing of Argentina played havoc with soccer's reputation in a play-off which saw six players sent off in Montevideo. One more year and South America's arch-pragmatists, Estudiantes de La Plata, first lured Manchester United into losing their tempers (Nobby Stiles was sent off in the first leg, George Best in the second) and then the tie.

One year later and three Estudiantes players were arrested and jailed overnight by orders of the Argentine President after a brawl of a match against Milan. In 1970 Feyenoord's Joop Van Daele had his spectacles trampled into the pitch after scoring what proved the winning goal, also against Estudiantes.

Fear of being drawn into such violence at first persuaded Ajax Amsterdam to refuse competition against the champions of South America. Instead, against Rangers, they helped inaugurate the European Supercup.

But as coach Stefan Kovacs later admitted: "The prospect of the World Club Cup always fascinated our players. It was the one challenge they had never achieved. The directors did not want the match but in the end the players won the day."

Boardroom concern proved well-founded against Argentina's Independiente. Dutch superstar Johan Cruyff collected a knee injury which plagued him for months afterwards. That was why, a year later in 1973 with the World Cup looming, Ajax decided against a repeat performance.

Thus, throughout the 1970s, more often than not it was Europe's runners-up who picked up the baton — Juventus, Atletico Madrid, Malmo and Borussia Monchengladbach. But the South Americans were furious. For them the World Club Cup title has always carried more significance at home than in Europe. For prestige and, more important, finance, they demanded the event's survival.

In stepped Toyota. By negotiation with the Japanese federation and FIFA they took over the staging of the World Club Cup. Instead of a two-leg tie, it was turned into a one-off annual event in the National Olympic Stadium in Tokyo.

Removed from the hothouse of European and South American fanaticism, the Final found new life. Guaranteed income of more than £250,000 for starters also helped persuade the likes of Nottingham Forest and Liverpool that this was a cause worth supporting. Thankfully, it has proved a peaceful, well-mannered one.

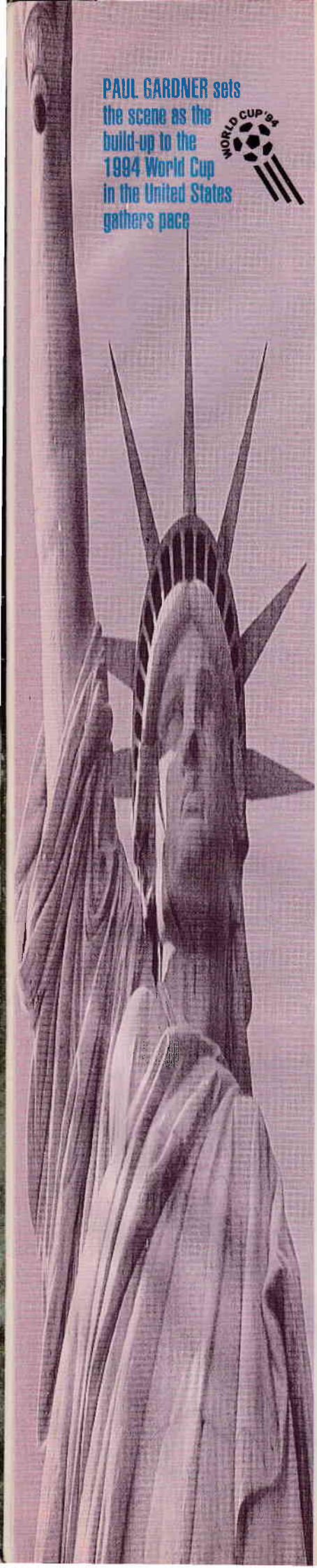
In the first final of the new era, in 1980, Nacional of Uruguay beat Nottingham Forest 1-0. Less than a year later Liverpool were comprehensively outplayed to the tune of 3-0 by Zico's Brazilian all-stars from Flamengo. It was not until Juventus beat Argentinos Juniors in a penalty shoot-out 1985 that Europe fought back.

Then Porto won in 1987 and Milan in 1989 and 1990.

A new name, it is certain, will go on the World Club Cup. And not only a new name. Neither Yugoslavia nor Chile had, before this year, provided a winner for their respective continental events.

Red Star and Colo Colo are sure to put that right.

Red Star Belgrade's Dejan Savicevic (above left) will be looking to stop Chile's Colo Colo (left) from winning the World Club Cup in Tokyo.



PAUL GARDNER sets the scene as the build-up to the 1994 World Cup in the United States gathers pace

DRAW

A 4,000 CROWD TO SEE THE STARS

THE World Cup qualifying draw in New York City on December 8 will be the first real test for the Americans running the tournament.

Most of the world's top soccer brass will be there eager to see how the hosts organise a soccer event.

The qualifying draw has never been held outside FIFA's hometown, Zurich. It's a joint operation — FIFA are involved, as are their marketing arm, ISL, the European Broadcasting Union, World Cup USA '94, and the local New York-New Haven bid committee.

Rey Post, a senior consultant to USA '94 and executive producer of the qualifying draw, estimates that between 400 and 500 people will be involved in putting on the event.

The draw will last under 30 minutes, but the soccer party will be going in New York City for nearly a week.

Delegates are expected to start arriving five days before the draw.

Continental Confederations will be holding meetings, as will various FIFA Committees, CONCACAF plan to hold a draw for the final regional qualifying round of the Olympics, and the official sponsors will be out in force, holding receptions and throwing cocktail parties.

Translating

The New York-New Haven Bid Committee are responsible for many arrangements. Steve Griggs, soccer coach at Yale University in New Haven, has organised between 75 and 100 volunteers who will do everything from meeting delegates at the airport to translating to taking phone messages to simply answering questions.

Three major hotels will be used, with individual delegations at the Hilton, FIFA personnel at the Plaza, and the media at the Sheraton.

Between 300 and 400 journalists are expected, about a quarter of them from the United States.

The official proceedings get under way with an elaborate dinner at the Hilton on December 7 with up to 2,500 guests, and no freebies. Everyone will pay $200.

No platform party, either. The soccer, business and other celebrities will be distributed throughout the hall at individual tables.

Next day there is a reception and lunch at Madison Square Garden, hosted by *The New York Times*.

After that, delegates and guests go next door to the Paramount Theatre for the draw at 1 p.m.

Post expects a full house of 4,000 people. Anyone who buys a ticket for the dinner gets two tickets to the draw itself.

Television will show the event throughout the world. It will be on American television, live — but only a cable network.

The draw will be conducted in the usual way, with coloured balls plucked out of fish bowls, and there is great secrecy over the identity of the celebrities who will attend the dinner and the draw.

The entertainment at the draw will be what Post describes as "youth-oriented, high-energy acts — singing, dancing, with athletic events and some soccer-related performers, the sort of youthful entertainment that America is known for."

MOOD

WAIT FOR THE LATE RUSH

ASK the average guy in the average American street if he's excited about the World Cup coming to the United States, and the chances are pretty high that he won't know what you're talking about.

That should come as no surprise, everyone knows that this is not a soccer country. Everyone also knows that it is a huge country, with wide variations in customs and tastes.

A national professional league would bring all those areas together, focused on one common interest.

A pro league is precisely what the US does not have, but it DOES have a national team receiving increasing attention from the media, and regularly drawing crowds over 30,000 all around the country. The seeds of a beginning, perhaps.

In New York, your chances of finding a soccer fan are much greater than in North Dakota. The idea of the whole country getting behind the World Cup in a frenzy of enthusiasm is sheer pie in the sky.

But the Americans' capability for whole-hearted enthusiasm towards anything that excites them must not be underestimated.

Tedious

At the moment there is no excitement about the World Cup — heck, the thing is over two years away. Was Italy awash with World Cup excitement in 1988?

Most of the work done so far by USA '94 has been low-key, behind-the-scenes stuff — the tedious business of drawing up marketing contracts, of holding endless meetings about the grounds. The high visibility will come later.

Indeed, there is a very good reason why there should be a minimum of World Cup publicity until late 1992: the Olympic Games.

Traditionally, these are the major international sports events for Americans. The country usually dominates in the medals tables, and the Games are the darling of the TV networks, which fall over themselves bidding vast sums for the rights. NBC paid $401 million for the rights to the Barcelona Olympics.

Any campaign of public awareness for the World Cup before the Olympic storm has died down would be a waste of time. But the spread of World Cup fever would be helped by a good performance from the US team in the Olympic soccer tournament.

Enthusiasm for the World Cup will certainly be there. In the usual American way, it is likely to come late and wholeheartedly.

The example of the Olympics is there again: less than a year to go, and there is no feeling of excitement yet.

USA '94 are likely to encourage interest first on a local basis — in the cities that are selected as venues. None of those cities will want to look bad by not selling out all their games.

This is exactly the sort of event that can be sold to Americans — who like to be offered the best of everything.

The enthusiasm will come later and will reach an impressive climax during the World Cup...and then what?

Either the excitement disappears overnight and soccer in the US is back where it was, with possibly its last chance for a professional league having gone.

Or the excitement is enough to generate the interest needed to start a national professional league.

COST

BUDGET AND BONANZA

LATEST estimates are that staging the 1994 World Cup will need a budget of up to $300 million.

This being the United States, the bastion of the free market economy, there will be no government subsidy, so that all those millions will have to come from tickets, TV rights, etc., and from sponsors.

As far as sponsors go, the Americans are allowed to engage up to nine marketing partners — provided their products do not conflict with those of the official sponsors signed up by FIFA's marketing arm, ISL.

Thus, with Coca-Cola as an official sponsor, the US cannot solicit another soft-drink company.

Supply

So far, USA '94 have signed American Airlines as a marketing partner, and have a letter of intent from a telecommunications company, US Sprint.

Each deal involves the company agreeing to supply a mixture of cash, services and products to a value of around $8 million.

Below the marketing partners there are the official products and services, then the equipment suppliers, the regional suppliers, and finally the licencing programme (consisting of manufacturers who pay a fee to put the official logo or mascot on their products — T-shirts, caps, etc).

Ticket revenue will be substantial. USA '94 have given FIFA a guarantee of $70 million as income, and anything over that goes to USA '94.

There will be around three million seats to be sold for 52 games. Ticket prices have not yet been set, but will no doubt be higher than they were in Italy in 1990, where they ranged from $15 up to $175.

The average price in the US may be around $50, which would bring in $150 million if all the tickets were sold at face value.

Revenue from the sale of American TV rights is expected to be between $10 million and $20 million (see box).

A further — and potentially large — source of revenue is the sale of special World Cup coins.

A Bill had to be introduced into Congress to get these coins minted — Pele put in a Washington appearance to support it — and final approval is expected before the end of the year.

When that is obtained, a competition will be organised for the design of the coins, and estimates are that if all are sold, that could mean as much as $60 million for USA '94.

To finance operations now — before the sponsorship or ticket money comes in — USA '94 have been living on an $8 million line of credit from Manufacturers Hanover Bank.

This is now just about exhausted, and further financing is being arranged with Swiss banks, with FIFA's backing.

USA '94 technically will make nothing. Any surplus — and the guesstimates start at $50 million — has to be transferred to an independent foundation set up by the USSF.

The money is to be used for the greater benefit of the game throughout the United States.

PREVIOUS WORLD CUP TOURNAMENTS

Year	Host	E	F	G	Total Att	Ave Att	Goals	Ave Goals
1930	Uruguay	13	13	18	434,500	24,139	70	3.88
1934	Italy	32	16	17	395,000	23,235	70	4.11
1938	France	36	16	18	483,000	26,833	84	4.66
1950	Brazil	33	15	22	1,337,000	60,772	88	4.00
1954	Switzerland	41	16	26	943,000	36,270	140	5.38
1958	Sweden	53	16	35	868,000	24,500	126	3.60
1962	Chile	57	16	32	776,000	24,250	89	2.78
1966	England	70	16	32	1,614,677	50,458	89	2.78
1970	Mexico	71	16	32	1,673,975	52,312	95	2.96
1974	West Germany	95	16	38	1,610,215	42,374	97	2.55
1978	Argentina	102	16	38	1,610,215	42,374	102	2.68
1982	Spain	109	24	52	1,766,277	33,967	146	2.81
1986	Mexico	121	24	52	2,285,498	43,952	132	2.54
1990	Italy	109	24	52	2,512,900	48,325	115	2.21
1994	United States	120	24	52				

Key: E = Entrants, F = Finalists, G = Games played in the finals.

WORLD CUP 1994 possible sites

Venue	Stadium	Capacity
Atlanta	Bobby Dodd	45,000
Boston/Foxboro	Foxboro	61,000
Chicago	Soldier Field	66,814
Columbus	Ohio	86,071
Dallas	Cotton Bowl	72,000
Denver	Mile High	76,123
Detroit/Pontiac	Silverdome	72,794
East Rutherford NJ	Giants	76,891
Kansas City	Arrowhead	78,067
LA/Pasadena	Coliseum	92,000
	Rose Bowl	104,091
Miami/South Florida	Joe Robbie	73,000
	Orange Bowl	75,500
New Haven	Yale Bowl	70,896
New Orleans	Superdome	73,000
Orlando	Citrus Bowl	70,500
Philadelphia	Veterans	61,000
San Francisco	Candlestick Park	61,000
	Stanford University	86,019
Seattle	Husky	72,000
Tampa Bay	Tampa	74,317
Washington DC	RFK	57,000

A final selection of 12 venues will be made early in 1992.

SITES

GROUNDS FOR DEBATE

FIFA officials have been touring 19 grounds with a view to finding suitable homes for matches in the 1994 World Cup.

FIFA vice-president Hermann Neuberger started things off with a statement that, as far as FIFA were concerned, there would be 12 venues. USA '94, the organising committee, said nothing.

Each inspection was followed by a chummy, cautious media conference at which the venue was neither lauded to the skies, nor damned out of contention.

Nonetheless, there was the usual swirl of "inside talk". FIFA were reported to be dismayed with the poor condition of the Bobby Dodd stadium in Atlanta, and not too happy with the ancient Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

The Atlanta situation is a bit tricky, because it is the home of Coca-Cola, a key FIFA sponsor.

The influence of sponsors also may be felt in Detroit, where the desire to bring in General Motors may strengthen the claim of the indoor Silverdome.

Another indoor arena, the New Orleans Superdome, seemed to be singled out for special praise by Neuberger.

In the North East of the United States — the area with the biggest concentration of soccer fans — the forecast is decidedly unsettled.

The jewel here is Giants Stadium, New Jersey, just across the river from New York City.

This is the stadium that FIFA desperately want included — but the problems of widening the pitch (which involves substantial structural remodelling) and paying for the work still remain.

Selected

The architects have given assurances that the work can be done, while the New Jersey State authorities — who own the stadium — have given vague assurances that they will find the money "from the private sector".

Yale Bowl, in New Haven, remains as the most organised bid in the area — though its chances of selection will recede if Giants Stadium makes it.

Giants Stadium . . . will have to be widened before it can be used.

New Orleans Superdome . . . an indoor stadium praised by Neuberger.

The organisers want to spread the World Cup as widely as possible throughout the US, and seem to dislike the idea of two venues so close together. But New Haven now has a lifeline, because there are new doubts about the use of Foxboro Stadium, in Massachusetts. A detailed study apparently revealed that widening the pitch there creates problems with the sightlines, resulting in some 10,000 seats having only a partial view.

Philadelphia seems to have just too many problems — an artificial turf field in a baseball stadium already the wrong shape for soccer, which can only be made available for an 18-day span during the 1994 pro baseball season.

GERMANY BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

Schumacher returns

THE most controversial footballer in German history, Harald "Toni" Schumacher, has returned home after three years in Turkey, and joined Bayern Munich.

Surprisingly, there was no adverse reaction from the fans to the engagement of the contentious goalkeeper, now 37, who first achieved notoriety during the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

There, in the semi-final, Schumacher shocked the crowd in Seville and millions of TV viewers with his violent charge on the Frenchman Patrick Battiston, who was put out of the game for over a year.

Next, Schumacher rocked West Germany with his revelations in a book, alleging that "dope taking is quite common in the Bundesliga". He also claimed that his international colleagues indulged in sex sessions during the Mexico World Cup in 1986. The book was translated into ten languages.

Schumacher's personal attacks, the accusations, confessions, recriminations and tales of scandalous conduct infuriated his club, FC Koln. They dismissed him, while the DFB banned him from the national team, after 76 caps.

What made his disclosures particularly startling was the fact that Schumacher, at the time, was captain of the national side, Footballer of the Year for the second time, European champion and twice World Cup runner-up.

After all, this was not a snivelling, whining footballing failure trying to get his own back on the sport which rejected him, but a seasoned, highly successful pro. But Schumacher always was something of a rebel and a complex personality. In Cologne they called him J.R. after the Dallas TV character.

Having been vilified by all and sundry, why has he chosen now to come back to German football? "I never thought I did anything wrong," he claims. "I only wanted to tell the truth, to be honest, while still an active player. I don't know why anybody should be punished for telling the truth, even though the truth hurts."

Some commentators suggested that Schumacher's cynical portrayal of the "unacceptable face of football" was designed to help sell his book. But he was not alone in his criticism.

None other than the most successful German footballer of all time, Franz Beckenbauer, said back in 1977: "There are all kinds of medical aids permitted in the Bundesliga to help the players reach peaks of stamina and endurance. Pills are swallowed and injections used."

And former World Cup star Paul Breitner, now a respected journalist, confirmed: "Everybody who is honest in this business cannot overlook the fact that dope-taking is rife."

Serious

A poll of 216 professional players came up with 31 who admitted that "dope-taking is prevalent in the Bundesliga".

Of course, several well known internationals denied the accusations. Some threatened libel actions, others claimed that Schumacher was "not serious". Sadly, he made more enemies in 14 days than in 14 years as a pro.

Bayern's acute goalkeeping problems have persuaded the management to sign Schumacher. Both top keepers were injured and that left only Gerald Hillringhaus, an amateur.

Schumacher said on arrival that he was only on standby. But no other reserve keeper has ever created such media interest. Four television crews, herds of reporters and fans turned up at the first training sessions.

When Hillringhaus provoked criticism for a couple of mistakes, Schumacher's hour had struck. He was picked against Borussia Monchengladbach and the fans gave him a rousing reception. They then celebrated a 3-0 win. "It was a marvellous feeling to play again in the Bundesliga," he said. "And for Bayern Munich — a dream come true."

Back home . . . Schumacher (right) and Hillringhaus in training.

Back home . . . Beckenbauer (second from left) with Uli Hoeness, Bayern president Dr Fritz Scherer and former striker Karl-Heinz Rummenigge.

. . . and so does Beckenbauer

BAYERN MUNICH, desperate to salvage something from the worst start to the season for 14 years, have invited Franz Beckenbauer and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, to join the board of directors.

Their appointment as vice-presidents has to be officially confirmed at a meeting of club members and endorsed by a two-thirds majority, but nobody in Munich doubts that the vote is a formality.

Both these former greats will have a say in the engagement and transfers of players, plus the hiring and firing of coaches, but will act, at present, only in an advisory capacity.

Setbacks

Uli Hoeness remains general manager, while Soren Lerby keeps his place as the new team manager, having succeeded Jupp Heynckes, dismissed following a string of setbacks.

Together with the re-activated sweeper Klaus Augenthaler and the once disgraced Koln keeper Harald Schumacher, Hoeness, Lerby, Beckenbauer and Rummenigge will form a "council" of old hands determined to restore Germany's most famous and most successful club.

Beckenbauer, the most decorated player in German history, will still assist French champions Marseille with advice on "international" matters, but his renewed association with Bayern is likely to continue for some time.

On the first occasion he addressed the players in the dressing room before the match, he told them: "Go out there and win". They did, 3-0 against Borussia Monchengladbach. "He could not have said anything better," remarked international midfielder Olaf Thon.

But earlier the "Kaiser" and his helper Rummenigge had expressed themselves far more forcibly. Apparently they "slayed" the team and threatened that anybody who does not give 100 per cent can start looking for another club.

German clubs look back on catastrophic performances in European competitions. The DFB, who started out with a record ten contenders (including the four East Germans), had lost eight representatives after two rounds — a new negative record in Europe and one that may never be beaten.

The unluckiest were champions Kaiserslautern, who after losing 2-0 at Barcelona led in the return by 3-0 right up to the last minute.

Then Jose Bakero was left unmarked at the far post and headed the goal that cost the Germans millions.

Leaders Eintracht Frankfurt fell to unfancied Belgians Ghent and VfB Stuttgart were home losers to Spain's modest Osasuna.

Germany's remaining representatives in European tournaments are two mid-table teams, but Werder Bremen should account for Galatasaray of Turkey, and Hamburg for Sigma Olomouc of Czechoslovakia.

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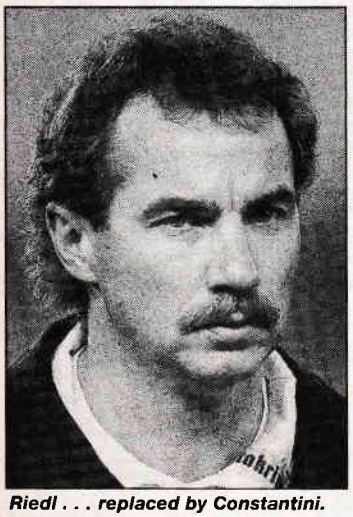
AUSTRIA BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

PLAYERS FEEL THE LASH



Riedl . . . replaced by Constantini.

AUSTRIA'S national team, who displayed such wretched form recently, are still derided.

Critics point to the record this year — played seven, lost four and won only against the Faroe Islands.

Before the penultimate European Championship match, against Northern Ireland, FA president Beppo Mauthart sent the players a message: "The attitude and performance in the 3-0 defeat against Denmark was totally unacceptable. It was an insult and a catastrophe.

"Because of you, Alfred Riedl is no longer national team manager. Now we shall not tolerate any excuses. Everybody will have to look to their own inadequacies."

These comments were read out by the new team boss, Didi Constantini.

But they didn't spark any reaction, for the Austrians lost again, though only by 2-1. "We can build on that", said a journalist sarcastically.

Changed

Just over a year ago, the Austrians surprised everybody with a splendid run in pre-World Cup tests and travelled to Italy as dark horses. But times have changed — for the Austrians more dramatically than for anybody else in Europe.

Now the question is: Can Swarovski Tirol salvage some of the pride, when they meet Liverpool in the UEFA Cup?

Tirol's stars are the Argentinian Nestor Corosito, new striker Christoph Westerthaler, midfielder Manfred Linzmaier and Brazilian Renato Cavalho.

The latter replaced the Czechoslovak Vaclav Danek, Tirol's top scorer and winner of the adidas European Bronze Boot last season.

In the championship, leaders Austria Salzburg seem unstoppable and have not dropped a home point.

CYPRUS BY MICHAEL RAPHAEL

STRIKE STOPS THE START

THE start of the new Cyprus football season — already the last to begin in Europe — was further delayed by a players' strike called on the eve of the kick-off.

The players rejected a further postponement of the introduction of a "contract scheme" under discussion for two years.

The scheme would at last give the players some freedom to move at their own will, provided they give their clubs a minimum of years (seven or eight) and provided they reach a certain age (27 or 28).

Final details will be discussed at a forthcoming meeting between the CFA and the Players' Union.

When the ball finally started rolling the CFA decision to introduce three points for a win for a one-year trial period helped to bring a total of 59 goals in the first 21 games, an average of 2.8 per game.

The CFA also are involved in another controversy, reporting ET1 (Greek TV) to UEFA for transmitting a live Greek game on Saturdays, when a handful of Cypriot games are played.

This caused uproar with fans and press alike claiming that the Greek football pools, very popular in Cyprus, have financed the whole of the Cypriot football structure and hence are entitled to some sort of exposure with their Cypriot fans.

The CFA were in for further embarrassment when only 80 spectators turned up for the Cyprus-Iceland (1-1) friendly in Larnaca at a time when ET1 were NOT broadcasting soccer.

Cypriot teams gave a good account of themselves in the European competitions, with Apollon Limassol overturning a 2-0 deficit in Romania with a 3-0 win in Limassol over Craiova, which gave them a fixture with defending champions Red Star.

Anorthosis Famagusta were unlucky to go out of the UEFA Cup in extra time against Steaua Bucharest, when a thrilling 2-1 normal-time away victory seemed to overturn the odds.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY BOB VAUGHAN

Sparta . . . shocked Marseille.

Fortunes revive despite problems

PERHAPS Czecho-Slovakia will soon be a more accurate title if the trend towards federation and possible separatism continues.

There are other preoccupations apart from soccer at the moment, but anything other than the current "A11 CSFR" championship would be disastrous for the game.

Bohemia/Moravia, in the west and middle of the country, now have a Football Association, as do Slovakia in the east, and only international football and the "1. Liga" are run and administered by the CSFA in Prague.

Even Second Division football only comes in a very general way under central control but, strangely in view of the present difficulties, there is an upsurge in club football fortunes.

Slovan have re-established themselves after the doldrums of recent years, some of them in Division Two, the Slovak National League, and lead the table under their new name, SK. The 3-2 win at home to Slavia was watched by a good crowd of 15,242.

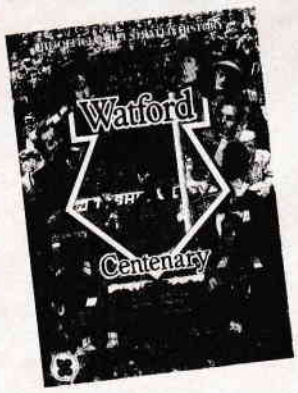
Olomouc also were attracting over 10,000 and scoring two goals to take the points and keep up their challenge to Slovan. Sparta could make nothing of the Moravian defence. Both go forward in Europe after far from easy opposition had been overcome — Marseille and Moscow Torpedo.

Charges

Sparta will relish group ties with Kiev Dynamo, Benfica and Barcelona. They must rank as outsiders but as it is no longer a true cup competition, winning home games will be the key and scrambling for points away will be the name of the game, so perhaps the Czechs will be represented for the first time ever in the European final.

Duvan Uhrin will be hoping this is not just wishful thinking, though he must be wondering what has happened to his former charges at Cheb, last year's autumn champions, and now on the possible road to relegation without him.

Only on the international front has there been disappointment, with France the clear winners of Group One in the European Championship qualifiers and Macala left to rue the narrow defeats in both games against them.



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Robson run ends at 90

BRYAN ROBSON'S England career is over, one match after he was brought back by public demand.

The former captain announced his retirement when manager Graham Taylor decided he would not be required for the decisive European Championship tie in Poland.

Robson had wanted to sever connections in the wake of his ill-fated encore against Turkey at Wembley, a match England won 1-0 without distinction. He felt that he was one of the targets for Taylor's criticism, and that a clean break from England would enable him to concentrate on leading Manchester United in the League Championship campaign.

United manager Alex Ferguson persuaded Robson he should hold back his announcement in case he was wanted for the Polish trip, but Taylor left him out.

Taylor, describing him as an inspiration to the national team, also said: "In the Turkey game Bryan did no better or worse than anyone else, but that is not the standard by which he judges himself. He judges himself by being better."

Robson, who scored 26 goals in his 90 appearances for England, had hoped to reach a century of caps and bow out after next summer's European Championship. Those ambitions came into focus again when he was recalled, only to disappear again.

Remembered

He chose his words carefully, saying he would not have been able to do himself or England justice in the finals, but the uneasy truce doubtless hid his true feelings.

As Robson revealed in *WORLD SOCCER* last month, he believed he had been made the scapegoat for a poor England performance against the Republic of Ireland last season, and did not care for the role.

A dignified exit is his consolation, and he will long be remembered for his glorious England days.

Ron Atkinson, who paid a British record £1.5m to take him to United 10 years ago, said: "At his peak he can drive a game with the same power and authority as Duncan Edwards, and he had the same abrasive qualities as Dave Mackay.

"I saw him as a cross between the two. In England terms he is up there with Billy Wright and Bobby Moore as a leader of men. People always talk about his injuries robbing him of many caps, but if he'd been selected a little earlier he would have sailed past the 100 mark. Many of us felt his international career began two years too late."

Robson . . . quit after winning 90 caps.

Robson's influence was a significant factor in United's excellent start to the season, but two matches in four days put an abrupt end to the club's unbeaten march. They lost their hold on the European Cup-winners' Cup, then the leadership of the First Division, to Leeds.

An own goal was enough to give Leeds United a 1-0 home win against Oldham that day and take them above United to the top of the League.

Manchester City thrust themselves into the frame under the wily guidance of Peter Reid, and Sheffield Wednesday are responding well to the promptings of Trevor Francis.

Arsenal, the defending champions, suggested in their 1-1 draw at Old Trafford that they were playing their way back to their best. Gradually they, too, moved up to join the leading pack, only to trip at home and abroad.

They may yet recover in the League. Their Champions' Cup campaign, however, was ended by Benfica.

England's reputation in European club football was rescued by the two sides having modest League seasons.

Tottenham doggedly protected a 3-1 lead away to Porto in the Cup-winners' Cup, while Liverpool came from 2-0 down after the first leg to beat Auxerre 3-2 on aggregate in the UEFA Cup.

Hampered

Liverpool manager Graeme Souness has had an uncomfortable ride in his first full season in charge, so much so that he was said to be ready to sell Welsh striker Dean Saunders, the player he bought in the summer for a British record fee of £2.9m.

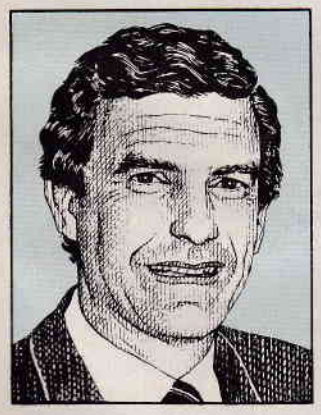
Injuries to key players have hampered Souness, though there is a feeling that Liverpool's greatest days are behind them. They are now undoubtedly vulnerable, and opponents are no longer intimidated by them.

The man Souness succeeded, Kenny Dalglish, is back in management with Second Division Blackburn Rovers, who have the money to back their ambition.

Club owner Jack Walker put up the salary to attract Dalglish and his new partner, Ray Harford, then promised them the funds they required to put Blackburn in the Super League.

Dalglish said: "I have spent the months since I left Liverpool recharging the batteries. The time was right for me to come back. Blackburn have impressed me as a club with ambitions."

DEREK **ALLSOP**



TAYLOR KEEPS SCRAMBLING THROUGH

TREVOR BROOKING

A LATE equaliser by captain Gary Lineker was sufficient to ease England through to the European Championship in Sweden.

They fell behind to a first-half goal from Poland, but just when their hopes were beginning to falter, Lineker seized on his only chance to volley an unstoppable goal and secure the point that made all the difference.

Manager Graham Taylor must have been very relieved to edge out Jack Charlton's unlucky Irish team.

England finished top of Group Seven, unbeaten, yet in only the opening 2-0 victory over Poland at Wembley did they give a convincing display.

They scrambled two hesitant 1-0 wins over Turkey, and drew 1-1 with the Republic of Ireland on both occasions, but were very fortunate not to lose to them at Wembley.

Certainly the main objective was to qualify for the final stages, after the excitement generated by the 1990 World Cup, there would have been huge disappointment if this had not been achieved.

But Taylor must acknowledge that performances have been a good deal short of the quality he would like.

Two factors emerge as important influences — the departure of senior players from the international scene, and long-term injuries.

Peter Shilton, Terry Butcher and more recently Bryan Robson have all succumbed to the ageing process, although I still believe Robson could have been retained up until Sweden if the balance of midfield had been different.

Taylor also raised a few eyebrows by leaving out the experienced Chris Waddle, Trevor Steven and Steve McMahon. Waddle has since announced his refusal to play for the England manager in the future and it is sad to see one of our most talented individuals become unavailable.

Waddle's international displays have been inconsistent but a majority of them have involved him in a definite wide role rather than allowing him freedom to roam wherever he wants. French supporters still marvel at his skill and flair, but he has now lost his chance to prove he can reproduce it on the international stage.

Steven was surely worth a place in the squad, at least, and I expect him to regain one spot by next summer.

This season has been a particularly cruel one for injuries.

Paul Gascoigne's absence since May has been an enormous loss, because nobody has gone near compensating for his flair and vision.

Demanded

The current side badly lack the inspiration and creativity that he so often provided, and that is one of Taylor's major problems as he searches for someone to improve that part of England's play.

Mark Wright and John Barnes also have been unavailable so far this season, and John Salako and Lee Sharpe have had injuries too.

Add these setbacks to the natural list of player withdrawals caused by the excessive number of matches demanded from the top clubs, and you can start to sympathise with the England manager.

So between now and June Taylor must somehow begin to shape his side. First he must select a clear system, because the balance and shape of the team has often changed from match to match.

After deciding that, he can then consistently pick the players he feels are best suited to take on the harder fixtures to come.

ANDREW CONRADI TALKS TO ALAN ROTHENBERG,

THE MAN HOTTEST

ALAN ROTHENBERG, the Los Angeles lawyer responsible for putting on the 1994 World Cup finals, has an answer for everything.

Suggest to him that games will lack colour and passion, and he replies that they will have the best atmosphere in the history of the competition.

Tell him Americans aren't interested in soccer, as the game is known there, and he predicts every game will be sold out.

Remind him the US team are not exactly world class, and he'll lay everything bar his house on the national side at least getting through the first round.

Rothenberg, as you might realise by now, is supremely confident that the United States will stage the most successful World Cup ever. He would say that, I hear. But the way he talks, it is hard not to be impressed.

Important

"FIFA were geniuses," said Rothenberg, chairman of the World Cup organising committee. "They took the greatest sport in the world, looked at the most important nation in the world, if you'll excuse the jingoism, and decided they had to break into that market.

"They will not be disappointed. The atmosphere will be better than anyone has seen before.

"We will have the best of both worlds, all the passion of fans who come over from abroad to support their teams plus we will *CREATE* pageantry. We will have banners, ribbons, dances and cultural events all around the stadium. We will surprise everyone."

Rothenberg has certainly learned the hard way. When he got involved in soccer in the 1970s, the North American Soccer League were struggling to survive, trying to balance lack of interest in the sport with huge salaries paid to imported stars. NASL soon went broke, and have never been replaced.

Rothenberg gained from the experience and is determined that when a new outdoor professional league is formed, as it must be to give American soccer any credibility, it will be a success.

"I paid dearly for my soccer education. Of course, we will have to bring over big-name players from abroad like before, but this time the demand will be there.

"When Beckenbauer and Pele came over in the 1970s, there were only a couple of million people playing soccer, and they were ethnic groups who had come from Europe and South America. Sports fans showed up out of curiosity but there was no hard-core support.

"The league started from the top without any foundation, and when the big stars left there was no American talent in sufficient quantity or a broad enough base of Americans who understood the game. Now there are 15 to 20 million kids who play."

Creating a solid and well-run professional league is as important to Rothenberg as the World Cup itself. The two, he said, go hand in hand and were joint tasks when he took over as president of the US Soccer Federation.

USSF president Alan Rothenberg (left) with team boss Bora Milutinovic.

"Another of the problems with the NASL is that there was no central direction. On the one hand, you had the New York Cosmos who could and would spend what they like while most other teams were getting by on a shoestring.

"I aim to put the league together with a set of ground rules on expenditure agreed by everyone, even if it means maximum and minimum amounts that can be spent on transfers."

Whether the new league will be in place before 1994 is open to question but its progress is bound to be accelerated by the success, or otherwise, of the national team. Despite a recent defeat by North Korea, the Americans' achievements since that wily Yugoslav coach, Bora Milutinovic, took over have been impressive by any standards considering their only pro league is indoors and six-a-side.

In 17 full internationals since last year's World Cup finals, they only have lost only five, including a 1-0 defeat against Argentina, losing World Cup finalists in Italy.

Incredible

These performances have not gone unnoticed. "We are selling sponsorships for the national team at an incredible rate and getting crowds of over 40,000," Rothenberg said. "Bora has worked his magic again, just as he did when coach of Mexico and then Costa Rica.

"The players swear by him. They say he simplifies the game instead of making it more complex. He gives them confidence to do things other tougher, tighter coaches might restrict them from doing."

Rothenberg would bet any figure you like that the Americans will get beyond the first phase of the 1994 finals. "We have to believe we can actually win the thing. People will say we are completely crazy and certainly the realistic goal is to get out of the first round. But we have fooled a lot of so-called experts after only one serious year of competition."

The real business cannot start in earnest, of course, until the venues are known. FIFA's inspection committee spent a couple of weeks in October and November visiting the 19 prospective sites, of which 12 eventually will be chosen.

The cities will be announced publicly in February but FIFA already hint that either the Yale Bowl in Connecticut, a two-hour drive from New York, or the Giants Stadium across the Hudson River in New Jersey and the former home of the Cosmos, will be used.

Both would need considerable

MONEYBAGS!

Cash pours in for Europe's champion clubs

EUROPEAN football's ruling body, UEFA, have organised a staggering financial coup far greater than any deals previously made on behalf of club football. Next season each quarter-finalist in the Champions' Cup could earn £4 million net.

UEFA have in effect obtained the approval of the 35 European national Football Federations to take over exclusive rights for the televising and advertising of the 24 matches in the newly-created quarter-final round.

As from this season, after two knock-out rounds the last eight are divided into two groups in which teams play each other home and away. The group winners then contest the final.

UEFA are to sell a package deal through a consortium, probably run by ISL of Switzerland. The president of the Swiss FA and UEFA's TV consultant, Fredy Rumo, and UEFA's TV section chief, Vittorio Jenny, are convinced: "It should be worth about £40 million."

Out of that, 55 per cent will go to the eight clubs, guaranteeing each £2.8m. The two finalists will share at least a further £800,000.

Some 35 per cent will be paid out to those 24 clubs who were eliminated in the first two rounds, bringing each £400,000.

There will be a cut for the national associations of about £120,000 each, and the remaining ten per cent will go to finance refereeing expenses and towards investment in junior football.

Willi Hepting, vice-president and financial expert of Swiss champions Grasshoppers, says: "All clubs keep all home gate receipts, in addition to the sponsorship, advertising and television income from the first two rounds, so this deal will be worth, even for a modest club, a further £1.2m.

Majority

"That makes £4m for everyone who survives the opening two rounds and reaches the quarter-final groups. Such a windfall would wipe out all our debts in one stroke, and the same applies to many other clubs."

Although some, including Real Madrid and AC Milan, expressed reservations, UEFA officials and marketing managers persuaded the majority to vote in favour of the proposals, thus implementing Article 14 of UEFA law, giving the governing body the authority to sign separate television contracts.

Rumo, a former candidate for the presidency of UEFA and member of the executive committee, concedes: "The only valid point of contention could be some existing long-term contracts between clubs and television or advertising companies."

But UEFA lawyers have scrutinised the fine print and came up with the conclusion that the quarter-final round of the Champions' Cup is now, in effect, a new competition. And for that a club could not have signed any agreement in advance.

Rumo, also a lawyer, announced that ISL, who already market the World Cup, the European Championship and Champions' Cup finals, have made a concrete offer.

A representative, Jean-Marie Weber, confirmed: "By the end of the year it should all be agreed and signed."

Thanks to tycoons such as Silvio Berlusconi (AC Milan), Bernard Tapie (Marseille) and Ramon Mendoza (Real Madrid), the new system of quarter-finals in mini-leagues has been launched, but these clubs are the least keen on the formula.

They wanted it the other way round — a league format, then sudden death from the quarter finals onwards. Their idea was to prevent the top clubs from being eliminated early.

Now they perhaps regret the new development, because they want more money for themselves.

AC Milan, banned this season from Europe, claim that they and Berlusconi's media empire together lost £20m.

Arsenal's defeat by Benfica cost them three lucrative home ties in the quarter-final groups.

Bayern Munich's general manager, Uli Hoeness, remarked: "Berlusconi is not concerned with his club as much as with his own business."

Clearly the European mega-outfits could earn much more if they had a free hand from the quarter-finals.

Hoeness believes that the future will bring another dimension. "In ten years Bayern v Milan will bring in £8m from TV alone" he says.

Minimum

The magic words are "pay-as-you-view".

"A mere five marks (£1.60) per household, multiplied by five million consumers, is the minimum we would expect in Germany."

Now only three avenues are open to the super-rich.

1. To tow the UEFA line.
2. To opt out and form a Super League.
3. To agree to pay the rest full compensation to gain a free hand.

But as Rumo calculates: "Milan can go it alone, if they want to. But it would cost them £8m to buy commercial freedom outside UEFA."

ARTHUR **ROTMIL**

EURO CUP DRAWS

CHAMPIONS' CUP

Quarter-final series:
Group A: Red Star Belgrade, Anderlecht, Panathinaikos, Sampdoria.
Group B: Sparta Prague, Kiev Dynamo, Benfica, Barcelona.

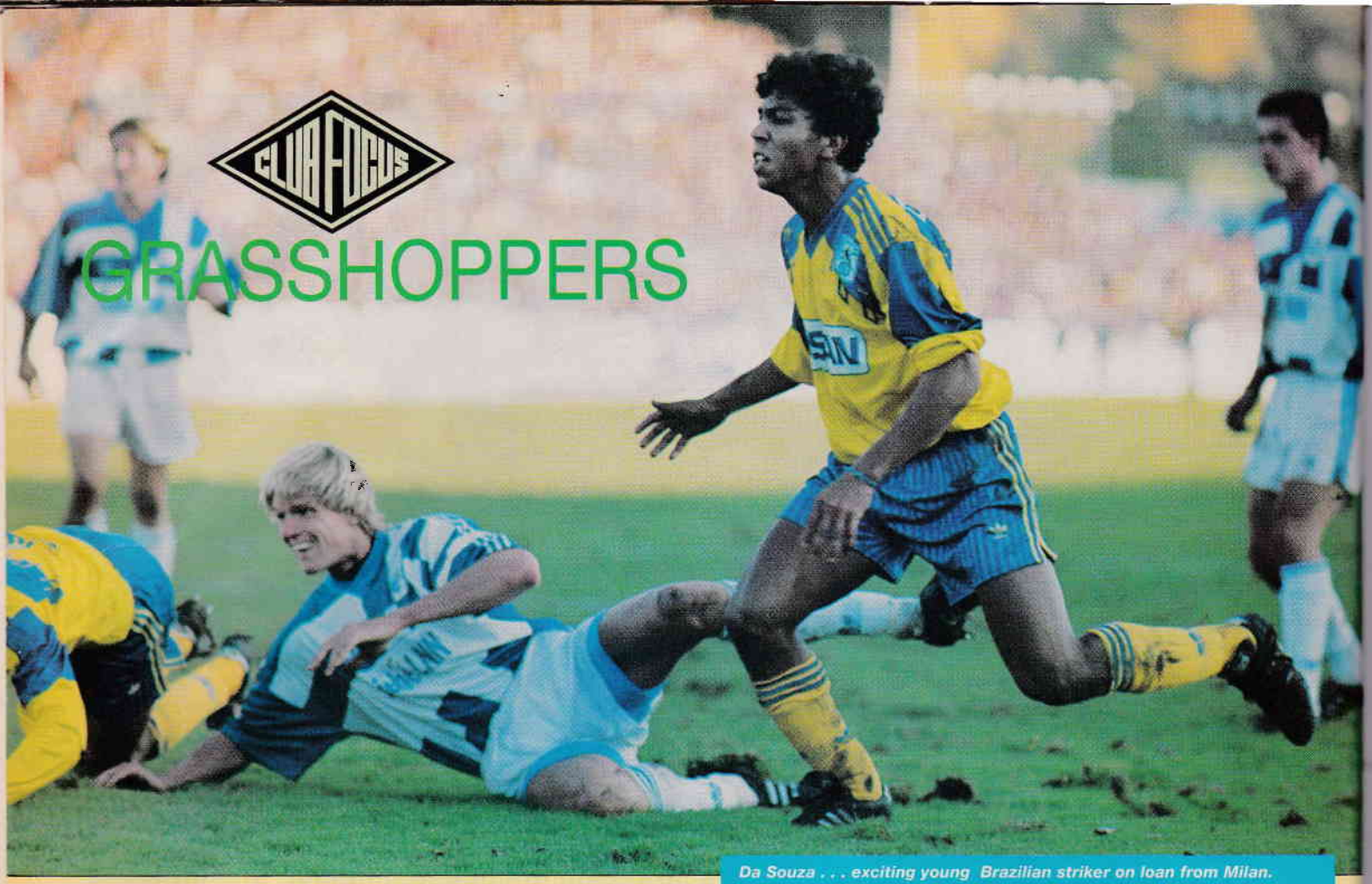
Fixtures:
Nov 27: Anderlecht v Panathinaikos, Sampdoria v Red Star; Kiev v Benfica, Barcelona v Sparta.
Dec 11: Red Star v Anderlecht, Panathinaikos v Sampdoria; Sparta v Kiev, Benfica v Barcelona.
Mar 4: Panathinaikos v Red Star, Anderlecht v Sampdoria; Benfica v Sparta, Kiev v Barcelona.
Mar 18: Red Star v Panathinaikos, Sampdoria v Anderlecht; Sparta v Benfica, Barcelona v Kiev.
Apr 1: Panathinaikos v Anderlecht, Red Star v Sampdoria; Benfica v Kiev, Sparta v Barcelona.
Apr 15: Anderlecht v Red Star, Sampdoria v Panathinaikos; Kiev v Sparta, Barcelona v Benfica.
Group winners meet in the final on May 20 (venue tba).

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Quarter-finals:
Werder Bremen v Galatasaray, AS Roma v Monaco, Atletico Madrid v Club Brugge, Feyenoord v Tottenham Hotspur.
Matches to be played on March 04 and March 18.

UEFA CUP

Third round:
BK1903 Copenhagen v Trabzonspor, Gent v Moscow Dynamo, Hamburg v Sigma Olomouc, Swarowski Tirol v Liverpool, Osasuna v Ajax, Steaua Bucharest v Genoa, AEK Athens v Torino, Neuchatel Xamax v Real Madrid.
Matches to be played on November 27 and December 11.



Da Souza . . . exciting young Brazilian striker on loan from Milan.

SECOND WON'T DO

It must be first all the time

BY NICK **BIDWELL**

FORMER GRASSHOPPERS of Zurich coach Ottmar Hitzfeld is blunt in assessing the task facing his successor, Oldrich Svab.

"There is a lot of pressure involved in managing Grasshoppers," said Hitzfeld, who took up a new appointment at Borussia Dortmund last summer. Hoppers are expected to win the title every year and that is a great burden.

"Over the years they have dismissed many coaches just for finishing second. Grasshoppers might be a team of part-timers, but the situation there is similar to that at Bayern Munich. Success is demanded."

During his spell at Grasshoppers Hitzfeld provided that success. In three seasons he guided the team to two championships (1990 and 1991) and two Swiss Cup victories (1989 and 1990).

Now Svab, Hitzfeld's Czech-born assistant, has the onerous responsibility of keeping Hoppers ahead of the likes of Sion, Lausanne and Neuchatel. Not that Svab was first choice to take over from Hitzfeld. Club general manager Erich Vogel tried to recruit Swiss boss Uli Stielke, Neuchatel's English coach, Roy Hodgson, and Dutch international Johan Neeskens.

With the new season looming and the vacancy still unfilled. Vogel turned to Svab and promoted him to first-team coach.

"I'm not worried about the challenge," says Svab. "This job is a privilege.

Worked

"I worked here as an assistant coach from 1980 to 1985, and returned in 1989 after being in charge of two Second Division sides. So I know the club extremely well. The team are talented and virtually unchanged from last season, and there is no reason why we cannot win more trophies."

Hoppers certainly appear likely to be among the honours next spring, despite the disappointment of defeat by Anderlecht in the first round of the Champions' Cup.

Yet despite being Switzerland's most successful club — they have gained 22 League titles and 17 Cup wins — Grasshoppers are hardly the country's most popular.

The image is that of the side supported by Zurich's industrial and banking elite, and often the club are regarded with envy by fans of other teams.

Last season the critics again found Hoppers to be a convenient target. The team were consistently criticised for unspectacular style, and even opponents began to hop on the "anti-Hoppers" bandwagon.

"Grasshoppers often seem to win while playing badly," said Lugano's Tami Pierluigi after his team had lost early last season. "If they continue to have luck like that, they will be champions again."

They went on to capture the 1990-91 crown, and in many ways it was a triumph for solid teamwork. But Hoppers are now, a side lacking in class performers.

Midfielders Alain Sutter and Thomas Bickel are both established members of the Swiss national team, and Argentine-born Adrian De Vicente — who scored 15 times last year — is an exciting striker.

Nor could one fail to be impressed by assured displays in the closing stages of last season's championship race. During the play-off round they lost in consecutive weeks to Sion and Lausanne and seemed to have lost their way. But they bounced back to record 11 unbeaten games and clinch the title with a 3-2 home win over Sion.

Grasshoppers were Swiss champions for the 22nd time. But this was not the moment for wild celebrations. A few weeks earlier the board had announced drastic measures in an attempt to reduce the club's debts: players would have to accept a 20 per cent pay cut.

Hoppers remain an attractive draw on their Swiss travels. But home attendances have fallen and their financial future is precarious.

"It seems almost impossible to attract more people to our games," says general manager Vogel. "In spite of all the trophies we have won lately, our average gate is only just over 6,000."

Grasshoppers were founded on September 1, 1886 at a meeting of eight students at Zurich's Cafe Staubli. The leader of the enthusiasts was Tom Griffith from England, who had a keen interest in biology and believed the name of a lively insect would be appropriate for a new-born club.

Clinched

A collection was made for equipment and Griffith went home to England to buy a set of blue and white halved shirts and a leather ball.

Grasshoppers were in business.

During the early days the club played friendly matches against Swiss and German opposition. But in 1887 a national championship was created and Hoppers clinched the inaugural title.

They obtained further League victories in 1900, 1901 and 1905, but then endured a fruitless 16-year spell before winning again in 1921.

Grasshoppers went on to claim the first Swiss Cup final by overcoming Berne 2-1 in 1926, and gained their first League and Cup double 12

months later.

In April 1929 the club moved to their present home, the Hardturm Stadium, and in the next two decades they won six championships and nine Cups.

The 1930s and 1940s were a glorious era for Hoppers, when the team included such renowned performers as full-back Severino Minelli and inside-forward Andre Abegglen.

Another influential player of this epoch was Vienna-born defender Karl Rappan, who went on to coach his old club and Switzerland, and is best known as the first manager to employ a sweeper system — the "Swiss Bolt".

This formation was the prototype of the Italian "catenaccio" theory of defensive obsession and counter-attacks. Coaches such as Inter's Helenio Herrera perfected the negative tactics during the 1960s, but Rappan was the creator.

In 1949 Grasshoppers suffered the humiliation of relegation. But after two years in the Second Division, they returned to the top flight and recorded League and Cup doubles in 1952 and 1956.

Yet little did the club realise that they would win only one trophy — the 1971 championship — in the next 22 years. While FC Basle, Servette and FC Zurich rose to domestic predominance, Hoppers struggled to rediscover their winning ways.

An important factor in the team's revival during the latter part of the 1970s was the ever-increasing financial help of a group of local businessmen called the "Donnerstag (Thursday) Club."

Guided

New president Karl Oberholzer used the benefactors' cash to set about an ambitious rebuilding programme. In 1976 he recruited an authoritarian German manager, Helmuth Johannsen, and shortly afterwards the veteran Gunter Netzer was signed.

Netzer did not remain long but he added flair to a side often considered dour by Swiss fans.

In 1978 Johannsen guided Hoppers to the title and the last four of the UEFA Cup. Their semi-final against the Corsicans of Bastia finished 3-3 on aggregate, but Grasshoppers were eliminated on away goals.

In the following season Hoppers were in the Champions' Cup and started their campaign in style by thrashing Valletta of Malta 13-3 on aggregate. Real Madrid were their next opponents and despite losing the first-leg 3-1 in Spain, the Swiss were far from discouraged.

"Real are an old team," said Grasshoppers midfielder Rai-mondo Ponte. "We'll run them ragged in the return in Zurich."

Ponte's prediction proved correct. Star striker Claudio Sulser scored an early goal to cut the arrears and then struck again with three minutes remaining. The aggregate score was 3-3, but Hoppers were through thanks to their away goal in Madrid. It was their finest hour.

"We really enjoyed ourselves tonight," declared the mischievous Ponte after the match. "It was a massacre."

The Swiss were knocked out in the quarter-final by Nottingham Forest who later signed Ponte.

But the likes of Sulser, Ponte, keeper Roger Bergib — now the club's vice-president — defender Roger Wehrli and midfield dynamo Heinz Hermann had proved their worth on the international stage.

In 1982 new coach Timo Konietzka was the architect of another championship win. But president Oberholzer was still not satisfied and persuaded legendary former Borussia Monchengladbach and Barcelona manager Hennes Weisweiler to take over.

He led Grasshoppers to the double in 1982-83, but died of a heart attack a few days after the 3-0 Cup final replay victory over Servette of Geneva.

Occupied

Since that tragic loss, coaches have arrived and departed with some regularity. Yugoslav Miroslav Blazevic, the returning Konietzka, ex-Austrian international Kurt Jara and Ottmar Hitzfeld all occupied the hot seat during the past eight years.

Not that success has been lacking. In that period the club won three League titles and three Cups.

These are the standards which Oldrich Svab will have to maintain.

Sutter . . . tipped to move abroad.

Bickel . . . a regular in the Swiss national side.

Gren . . . highly versatile Swedish international.

CONTINUED OVER

GRASSHOPPERS

Founded: September 1, 1886.
Colours: Blue and white halves/white.
Stadium: Hardturm Stadion, Hardturmstrasse 321, 8005 Zurich, Switzerland.
President: Benno Bernardi.
General manager: Erich Vogel.
Team manager: Oldrich Svab.
Honours: 22 Swiss Championships (1898, 1900, 1901, 1905, 1921, 1927, 1928, 1931, 1937, 1939, 1942, 1943, 1945, 1952, 1956, 1971, 1978, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1990, 1991).
17 Swiss Cups (1926, 1927, 1932, 1934, 1937, 1938, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1946, 1952, 1956, 1983, 1988,1989, 1990).

THE COACH

Oldrich SVAB.
Aged 41 (born November 2, 1940).
Grasshoppers' assistant-manager for the previous two years, and promoted to first-team coach last summer after Ottmar Hitzfeld quit to join Borussia Dortmund. Played for Cadez and Union Teplice in his native Czechoslovakia during the 1960s and moved to Switzerland in 1970. Svab had spells at Young Fellows, Aarau and Dubendorf and then became player-manager of Wallisellen. He subsequently took charge of Second Division Chur and spent five years (1980-85) on the Grasshoppers coaching staff, before managing Baden and Bruttisellen. He returned to Grasshoppers as Hitzfeld's deputy early in 1989. It is common knowledge that Svab was not first choice as Hoppers new coach and he is under considerable pressure to achieve instant success.

THE PLAYERS

Martin BRUNNER. (Above)
Goalkeeper.
Aged 28 (born April 23, 1963).
First choice keeper for the past seven seasons, an excellent shot-stopper but erratic on crosses. He is an avid follower of English football and says his ambition is to play in the Football League. A Swiss international since 1986, but lost his place to Lausanne's Stefan Huber last season.

Ulrich BRUNNER.
Goalkeeper.
Aged 21 (born November 24, 1970). Martin Brunner's younger brother. A motor mechanic by trade and joined the club from Second Division Winterthur last summer.

Urs MEIER.
Defender.
Aged 30 (born July 7, 1961).
A solid full-back with over 150 games in the Swiss First Division. Began his senior career with SC Zug in 1983.

Harald GAMPERLE.
Defender.
Aged 23 (born May 11, 1968).
Dependable full-back or stopper, formerly with St Gallen.

Marcel KOLLER.
Defender/midfielder.
Aged 31 (born November 11, 1960). Club captain, equally efficient as an energetic midfield man or sweeper. A full Swiss international who made his Hoppers debut back in April 1979.

Ciriaco SFORZA.
Defender.
Aged 21 (born March 2, 1970).
Converted from a midfield schemer into a cental defender of great promise, and recently broke into Uli Stielke's Switzerland side. Signed from Wohlen and first played for Grasshoppers as a 16-year-old in August 1986.

Georgios NEMTSOUDIS.
Defender.
Aged 18 (born January 1, 1973).
A Greek-born full-back who made his debut in October 1989.

Mats GREN.
Defender/midfield.
Aged 27 (born December 20, 1963).
A manager's dream. Began his career as an attacker with Hammarby of Stockholm, but since joining Grasshoppers in late 1985 he has exhibited great versatility. Has played in forward and midfield positions and last season did impressively in defence. A full Swedish international, with some 180 League games for Hoppers.

Thomas BICKEL.
Midfield.
Aged 28 (born October 10, 1963).
Bought from city rivals FC Zurich three years ago, and a midfield regular for Switzerland. A bank employee who began his soccer career at FC Biel.

Andreas HASLER.
Midfield.
Aged 22 (born February 23, 1969).
A student who made his debut for Hoppers in 1990. Usually on the bench.

Alain SUTTER.
Midfield/forward.
Aged 23 (born January 22, 1968).
The rising star of Swiss football. Long-haired Sutter is widely tipped to follow the example of international colleagues Kubilay Turkyilmaz and Stephane Chapuisat and make a lucrative move abroad. Classy playmaker with a fearsome left-foot shot. Formerly with Bumpliz 78 and Young Boys of Berne. No relation to Neuchatel striker Beat Sutter.

Peter KOZLE. (Above)
Forward.
Aged 24 (born November 18, 1967).
Lively German attacker who began as an amateur at Bayern Munich. Joined Young Boys of Berne in 1988 and moved to Grasshoppers two years later. Makes no secret of his desire eventually to return to the Bundesliga.

Elber Giovane DA SOUZA.
Forward.
Aged 19 (born July 23,1972).
Brazilian youth international on loan with Grasshoppers from Milan who bought him in the summer from his Brazilian club Londrina. Elber was member of the Brazilian team beaten on penalties by Portugal in the World Youth Cup final in Lisbon during the summer.

Andre HALTER.
Forward.
Aged 25 (born April, 21).
A full Swiss international who joined Grasshoppers from Luzern in 1988. Has played 87 League matches and scored 32 goals.

Andrew WIEDERKEHR.
Forward.
Aged 21 (born April 20, 1970).
Promising youngster who has performed well when called into the first team. Made his Grasshoppers debut against Lausanne in 1988.

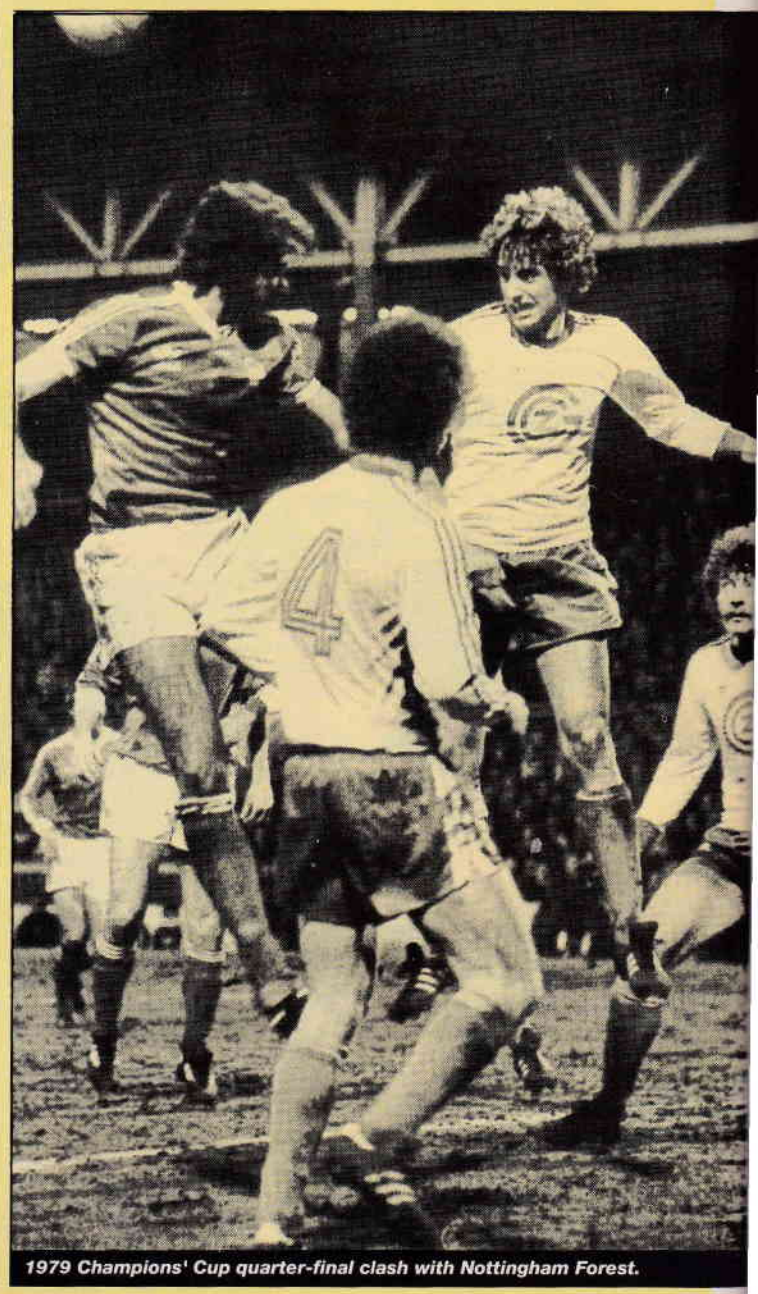
Mario CANTALUPPI.
Forward.
Aged 17 (born April 11, 1974).
Young reserve attacker who made his first-team debut last spring.

Steve GUILLOUD.
Forward.
Aged 22 (born December 27, 1968).
Transferred from the junior club of Beauregard during the close season.

Adrian DE VICENTE.
Forward.
Aged 27 (born July 25, 1964).
Flamboyant goalscorer who arrived at Hoppers in the summer of 1989 from an Argentinian club, Talleres of Cordoba. His 15 goals were instrumental in the club's championship triumph of last season. At his most dangerous when moving forward from deep.

Sigurdur GRETARSSON.
Forward.
Aged 29 (born May 2, 1962).
Icelandic international who signed for Hoppers in 1990, from Luzern. An electrician by trade, helped Luzern to their surprise title triumph in 1989, and repeated the feat with Grasshoppers last season.

Daniel SALVI.
Forward.
Aged 19 (born January 29, 1972).
Teenager who made his debut for the club last March versus Lugano.



1979 Champions' Cup quarter-final clash with Nottingham Forest.

SPAIN BY GRAHAM TURNER

PETROVIC FALLS FROM HIS PERCH

Others will follow, too

THE bigger they come, the harder they fall. It seemed too good to be true that November arrived without damage to the 20 green bottles which perch precariously on the benches of the Spanish First Division.

But the first one to accidentally fall was none other than the European champion Ljubomir Petrovic, sacked after a five-hour board meeting hurriedly convened after Espanol's 2-0 home defeat by Valladolid.

One cannot help but feel sorry for Petrovic, who left Red Star Belgrade to look for fools' gold in Barcelona. He set about the difficult job at Sarria in honest, forthright fashion but fell victim to a combination of circumstances which "The Budgerigars" need to sort out with some urgency.

Espanol are a peculiar club powerfully influenced from behind the scenes by factions which the local media describe as "The Families". They inject cash and expect their views to hold weight.

They sometimes throw stones which do damage that the fans find inexplicable, as Allan Harris — sacked after 11 days and without even treading the training pitch — will testify.

Petrovic found himself in charge of a squad formed by the club's technical secretary, the former midfield general Daniel Solsona, and two of his parting shots were significant.

"If I had stayed," he said after the sacking, "there are players here who would never have played for Espanol again." Later he added: "Unless there are urgent signings, this team is bound for the Second Division."

Ironically, his fatal, final game produced an anecdote symptomatic of the administrative disarray at the club.

The death of a former Catalan federation president was commemorated at the start of the second half because the minute's silence had been overlooked at the beginning.

Significantly, the fans who hammered angrily at the Sarria gates after the match were baying for the resignations of Solsona and the Espanol president, Julio Pardo, rather than Petrovic. The Yugoslav, however, must accept his share of the blame for one win and seven goals in eight games.

Several

His tactics, especially away, were all too reminiscent of Bari and, having handled a squad of exceptional technical ability at Red Star, he was perhaps slow to react to the modest realities at Espanol.

Local boy Jaime Sabate was promoted from nursery side Hospitalet to replace him, and promptly led the side to a 2-0 win over Athletic in Bilbao.

That result provoked mass indignation in San Mames and made Inaki Saez's hold on the managerial job even more precarious. He and several other green bottles have been wobbling and clinking alarmingly.

Ramon Blanco at Cadiz, Valladolid's "Pacho" Maturana, Valencia's Guus Hiddink, Mallorca's Serra Ferrer, Logrones boss David Vidal and Coruna coach Marco Boronat have been living from hand to mouth, even Raddy Antic at Real Madrid has been obliged to pass weekly examinations in order to fend off general manager Leo Beenhakker, and Tenerife's Jorge "Indian" Solari has threatened to resign following "lack of support from the fans".

Saez, however, has been on the rack all season. This club stalwart, now in his second spell as number one, has failed to find answers to the Basque crisis which *WORLD SOCCER* has reported in recent times.

Javier Clemente, who led the Lions to League triumphs in 1983 and 1984, left last season complaining that the new generation is not prepared to uphold Basque traditions of commitment and endeavour.

The fans at San Mames were certainly unable to digest five home games without a win and nobody would have predicted that the Basque derby between Real Sociedad and Bilbao would be played with both in the bottom six.

Curiously, however, John Toshack has not been held responsible for Sociedad's dismal start of five goalless games.

The fans in San Sebastian accept that he is doing sterling work with limited resources, hampered still further by injuries to his foreign imports, Carlos Xavier and Yugoslav striker Meho Kodro, signed from Velez Mostar in a bid to solve the goal drought.

Substance

Long-term worries in Spanish football extend, however, far beyond temporary injuries. Television coverage and elevated prices are combining to threaten the very substance of the sport.

Coruna were charging as much as £110 for tickets to watch the televised home game against Real Madrid, while state and regional networks are now offering overkill-coverage of domestic and foreign games.

During the week when Barcelona (remarkable) disposed of Kaiserslautern in the Champions' Cup with a last-minute header from Bakero, theirs was by no means the only match to be screened.

Osasuna's praiseworthy 3-2 win in Stuttgart was screened on the Tuesday, Atletico Madrid's game at Old Trafford was shown along with Barcelona's and Real Madrid v Utrecht on the Wednesday, and Steaua Bucharest's 1-0 win over Sporting Gijon was screened live on the Thursday.

Two days later, Valencia v Atletico Madrid was shown live, and Barcelona's identical result against Osasuna was screened on the Sunday evening. In other words, seven matches were screened live in six days.

With the average price for tickets now approaching £20, the Spaniards are in danger of killing the goose.

What's more, the national team have little to whet the national appetite. Inferiority complexes were strengthened by France's 2-1 victory in Seville, where the national team had produced 24 wins and three draws in an unbeaten run extending since 1926.

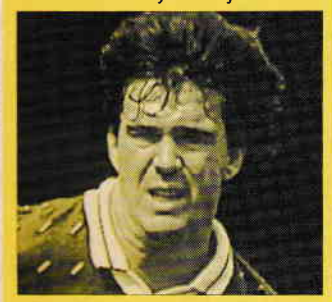
Real Madrid midfielder Michel, dropped for France, was recalled for the meaningless fixture against Czechoslovakia, and the Spaniards will be glad to see the back of a dreadful European Championship campaign when they sign off in Albania later this month.

National team manager Vicente Miera was being lined up among the wobbling green bottles after only three games in charge.

GREECE

TWENTY years have passed since Panathinaikos made their lone appearance in a European final, losing to Ajax in the Champions' Cup at Wembley.

Players, officials and fans say it's been too long and are counting on this season's squad to take them back to Wembley on May 20.



Panathinaikos made it to the quarter-finals with striker Dimitris Saravakos (above) leading the way. The Athenians have yet to lose in European competition this season.

"I believe that our success was not only big for Panathinaikos but for Greek soccer as well," Saravakos said after scoring both goals against IFK Gothenburg and helping the Greeks to the quarter-finals.

But Panathinaikos are not the only Greek club up in the clouds. AEK Athens made it to the third round of the UEFA Cup, beating Moscow Spartak 2-1.

AEK also top the table, a point ahead of Olympiakos and Apollon.

And the cheering is not only done by male fans. The first all-female AEK fan club has been formed under the title Original Female Club, with about 30 members.

The best defence in Greece is that of Tylikratis Lefkas, a Fourth Division club, who have won all 10 games and have yet to concede a goal.

TURKEY BY HASAN CEMALI

FENERBAHCE'S GIANT BONUS

SEVEN successive victories after a defeat in the opening match earned Fenerbahce's players a £4,000 bonus from president Metin Asak.

He feels that the money is well spent — and that the club can afford it. Asak expects the club's revenue this season to top £4.8 million, from gate receipts, television fees, souvenir sales and shirt advertising.

The debts amount to almost £2.5 million, but Asak is confident that these will be repaid in the next few months.

"Every club has ups and downs, but our bad days are in the past," he says. "Success is near. Next season there must be a place for us in Europe."

Sincere

The players certainly seem happier under Josef Venglos, who replaced Guus Hiddink as manager during the summer. "He is sincere, and knows how to cope with men," says the president.

Besiktas, the champions, led Fenerbahce by one point but do not have the money to pay large bonuses. Manager Gordon Milne faced a mini-revolt as a result, but calmed matters down.

The national team did surprisingly well to hold England to a lone goal in the European Championship qualifier at Wembley, and at club level Trabzonspor brought off a surprise in the UEFA Cup. They became the first Turkish side ever to score four goals in an away European match, when they beat Olympique 4-3 in Lyon on their way to an 8-4 aggregate victory.

This followed a 3-2 away win over Hask Gradjanski in the previous round. Hami scored once in Zagreb, twice in Lyon and twice in the home leg against the French.

Galatasaray also got through the first two European rounds, although they needed the away goals rule to help them through against Banik Ostrava, who won in Turkey but then were beaten at home by a surprisingly effective Turkish force inspired by goalkeeper Hayrettin.

Back to Fenerbahce . . . and Ridvan Dilman, who is rarely out of the news for long.

After almost four months off with a damaged shoulder, involving the sixth operation of his career, Dilman went to watch the game against Trabzonspor in Istanbul.

With 20 minutes to go, Fenerbahce were 2-1 up but having to cling on tight. Coach Venglos sent Ridvan on — although he had not even been among the substitutes — and the team went on to win 4-1.

The last goal, in the 90th minute, came from Ridvan. Of course. But sadly he has been injured yet again since then, and faces operation No. 7.

INTERNATIONAL RESULTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

Oct 19 = Washington/RFK Stadium - intl friendly
United States 1 (Bruce Murray 25)
North Korea 2 (Eun 13, Coi 48)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 16,351. **Ref:** Douglas (Can).
US: Meola - Michallik (Savage 46), Armstrong, Balboa, Clavijo, Murray, Kinnear (Eck 64), Quinn, Henderson (Gyau 77), Perez, Wynalda.
N Korea: Pak - K M Kim, G I Kim, Tak, Pang, Liu, Eun (W N Choi 36), I C Cho (D M Pak 88), Chong, Y S Choi, Y N Cho.
● This was the Americans' first full international defeat since Bora Milutinovic took over as coach last March. Eun opened the scoring for the North Koreans in a goalmouth scramble after Song Geun Liu hit a post. The US equalised when Janusz Michallik created a record 17th international goal for Bruce Murray. But the vistors regained the initiative shortly after half-time when Yong Son Choi converted a pass from Gyong Il Kim. The closest the US came to an equaliser was when a Perez free kick hit the angle in the 76th minute.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

Oct 29 = Buenos Aires - AIDS charity match
Argentina 3 (Diego Latorre 32, 69, Leo Rodriguez 40)
Rest of the World 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Gnecco (Arg).
Argentina: Goycochea - Craviotto, Vazquez, Ruggeri, Altamirano - Franco (Gamboa 85), Giunta (Carrizo 63), Latorre (Martino 71), L Rodriguez (Sonora 77), Gonzalez, Mohamed (Manarino 63).
Rest of the World: Meola (Chabala 64) - Vasquez, Torres (Sanchez 64), Belodedic, Diego - Mojas, Bismarck, Borge, Savicevic (Ruben Paz 46), Rubio, Zamorano (Balboa 46).
● Coincidentally, Argentina's victory over a makeshift World team took place on Diego Maradona's 31st birthday. Profits were split between Unicef and a local AIDS charity. The star was Diego Latorre, property of Fiorentina but currently on loan back to Boca Juniors. He scored two decisive goals. Leo Rodriguez scored another courtesy of a mistake by United States goalkeeper Tony Meola.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Oct 30 = Szombathely - Euro chp gp 3
Hungary 0
Norway 0
Att: 10,000. **Ref:** Biguet (Fr)
Hungary: Petry - Pinter, Urban,, Lorincz, Tibor Nagy, Pisont (Eszenyi 83), Lipcsei (Illes 71), Duro, Detari, Fischer, Kovacs.
Norway: Grodas - Tore Pedersen, Bratseth, Per Egil Ahlsen, Bjornebye, Lokken, Bohinen, Rekdal, Leonhardsen (Ingebrigtsen 78), J I Jakobsen, Sorloth (Fjortoft 46).
● Hungary ended their qualifying campaign with a disappointing result from a sometimes-lively game. Norway's top player was centre back Rune Bratseth, while goalkeeper Zsolt Petry was Hungary's No 1 with excellent saves from Jakobsen and Rekdal. When he was beaten, in the 84th minute, by Lars Bohinen, the post came to his rescue. The closest Hungary came was in the 54th minute when Kovacs saw a shot rebound out from the underside of the bar.

Oct 30 = Athens - Euro chp gp 6
Greece 2 (Dimitris Saravakos 50, Stefanos Borbokis 52)
Finland 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 26,000. **Ref:** Kapl (Aus)
Greece: Sarganis - Apostolakis, Karageorgiu, Mitsibonas, Tsaluhidis, Kalitzakis, Saravakos, Papaioannu, Athanasiadis (Borbokis 46), Karapialis (Tursunides 73), Tsiantakis.
Finland: Huttunen - Holmgren, Heikkinen, Petaja, Vuorela (Patelainen 54), Huhtamaki (Tegelberg 83), Litmanen, Ukkonen, Jarvinen, Tarkkio, Hjelm.
● Greece retained the slimmest of hopes of qualifying for the European finals thanks to this victory. After a poor first half Greece opened the score through Saravakos who fired home from 25 yards after accelerating past three defenders. Two minutes later substitute Borbokis headed home No 2. Finland wasted their best chance when Sarganis saved well at close range from Tarkkio in the 62nd minute.

Oct 30 = Varginha - intl friendly
Brazil 3 (Luis Henrique 8, Rai 44, Muller 74)
Yugoslavia 1 (Lukic 9)
HT: 2-1. **Att:** 25,000.
Brazil: Carlos - Luis Carlos Winck (Cafu), Antonio Carlos, Marcio Santos, Lira, Mauro Silva, Rai, Luis Henrique, Bebeto (Valdeir), Renato (Muller), Elivelton.
Yugoslavia: Omerovic - Vujavic, Najdoski (Babuski), Novak, Jugovic, Mijatovic, Jokanovic, Savicevic, Mihajlovic (Curcic), Lukic, Milanic (Stanic).
● Brazil won comfortably in the end to provide a winning start for new manager Carlos Alberto Parreira. Brazil were without their European-based exiles, but then Yugoslavia were missing all their exiles and Croatians as well. Brazil, unbeaten by Yugoslavia in 57 years, went ahead with a brilliant goal through Luis Henrique after a backpass from skipper Rai. Savicevic set up an immediate equaliser for Yugoslavia. But Rai restored Brazil's lead just before the interval after colleting a loose clearance. Substitute Muller justified his recall with a fine solo goal in the second half.

OTHER MATCHES

Oct 6 (Tokyo):
Europe Veterans 1 (Giresse 77),
South America Veterans 1 (Edinho 3).

EUROPEAN CUPS

CHAMPIONS' CUP

SECOND ROUND, FIRST LEGS (OCT 23)

Barcelona 2 (Aitor Beguiristain 43, 52)
Kaiserslautern 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** Biguet (Fr).
Barcelona: Zubizarreta - Ferrer, Nadal, Koeman, Eusebio (Cristobal 62), Guardiola, Laudrup, Beguiristain, Witschge, Stoichkov (Salinas 49), Baquero.
Kaiserslautern: Ehrmann - Scherr, W Funkel, Hotic, Stumpf, Hoffman, Kranz, Dooley, Haber (Degan 76), Kuntz (Goldbaek 59), Witeczek.

Benfica 1 (Isaias 15)
Arsenal 1 (Kevin Campbell 18)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 80,000. **Ref:** Lanese (It).
Benfica: Neno - Kulkov, Rui Bento, Madeira, Veloso (Pacheco 75), Thern, Paneira, Schwarz, Aguas (Brito 49), Isaias, Yuran.
Arsenal: Seaman - Dixon, Winterburn, Davis, Pates, Adams, Rocastle, Campbell (Groves 78), Smith, Merson, Limpar (Thomas 80).

Kiev Dynamo 1 (Igor Salenko 77pen)
Brondby 1 (Claus Nielsen 12)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Blankenstein (Hol).
Kiev: Kutepov - Luzhni, Alexanenkov, Yuri Moroz, Shmatovalenko - Kovalets, Grytsina, Zaets, Betsa (Victor Moroz 46) - Salenko, Sharan.
Brondby: Krogh - Bjorn Jensen, Okechukwu, T Madsen, B Jensen - John Jensen, Christofte, Henrik Jensen, Vilfort - Bjur (Eklund 70), K Nielsen.

Kispest-Honved 2 (Istvan Pisont 52, Donat Cservenkai 72)
Sampdoria 1 (Toninho Cerezo 65)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Uilenberg (Hol).
Kispest: Tarlosi - Csabi, Urbanyi (Halmaj 71), Csemi, Szabados - Kovacs, Marosjan (Cservenkai 46), Berczy, Pisont - Vincze, Negrau.
Sampdoria: Pagliuca - Mannini, Pari, Vierchowod, Lanna, Orlando - Katanevc (Invernizzi 85), Cerezo, Buso (Lombardo 68) - Mancini, Vialli.

Marseille 3 (Chris Waddle 34, Jean-Pierre Papin 55, 59)
Sparta 2 (Peter Vrabec 63pen, Roman Kukleta 79pen)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,016. **Ref:** Kapl (Aus).
Marseille: Olmeta - Angloma, Boli, Mozer, Casoni, Amoros - Steven, Deschamps, Pele (Xuereb 84) - Papin, Waddle.
Sparta: Kouba - Vrabec (Lavicka 71), Novotny, Sopko, Hornak - Nemec, Frydek (Kukleta 65), Mistr, Nemecek - Siegl, Cerny.

Panathinaikos 2 (Dimitris Saravakos 27, Spyros Marangos 49)
IFK Gothenburg 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 60,000. **Ref:** Midgley (Eng).
Panathinaikos: Wandzik - Apostolakis, Kalantzis, Christodolu, Kalitzakis - Navridis, Karageorgiu, Athanasiadis (Donis 83), Georgakapoulos (Antoniu 67) - Saravakos, Maragos.
IFK: Ravelli - Svensson, Nilson, Andersson (Eskelinen 80), Mordt - Pedersen, Mild, Eriksson, Rehn - Kaamark, Ekstrom (Lingqvist 80).

PSV Eindhoven 0
Anderlecht 0
Att: 27,000. **Ref:** Forstinger (Aus).
PSV: Van Breukelen - De Jong, Valckx, G Popescu, Van Tiggelen, Heintze - Van Aerle, E Koeman, Ellerman - Romario (Scheepers 38), Kalusha Bwalya.
Anderlecht: De Wilde - Houben, Rutjes, Kooiman, De Wolf - Boffin, Degryse, Walem - Verheyen (Bosman 71), Nilis, Oliveira.

Red Star Belgrade 3 (Darko Pancev 15, Lukic 71, Dejan Savicevic 83pen)
Apollon 1 (Ptak 41)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 1,500. **Ref:** Zhuk (SU).
Red Star: Lekovic - Radinovic, Ratkovic, Belodedic, Najdoski - Jugovic, Dtosic (Jovanovic 71), Savicevic, Mihajlovic - Pancev (Iliv 46), Lukic.
Apollon: M Christofi- Elia, Ioannu, P Christofi, Pittas - K Christofi, Iosifidis, Ptak (Andrelis 89), Kenny - Pesirevic, Charalampous.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

SECOND ROUND, FIRST LEGS (OCT 23)

Atletico Madrid 3 (Paulo Futre 33, 84, Manolo 89)
Manchester United 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 52,000. **Ref:** Heynemann (Ger).
Atletico: Abel - Tomas, Soler, Solozabal, Ferreira, Juanito, Manolo, Schuster, Vizcaino, Futre, Moya (Losada 73).
Man Utd: Schmeichel - Parker, Irwin, Bruce, Webb, Pallister, Robson, Ince (Martin 52), McClair, Hughes, Phelan (Beardsmore 57).

Werder Bremen 3 (Frank Neubarth 28, 40, Klaus Allofs 33)
Ferencvaros 2 (Peter Lipcsei 35, 73)
HT: 3-1. **Att:** 7,052. **Ref:** Syme (Scot).

Galatasaray 0
Banik Ostrava 1 (Zybnek Ollender 68)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 15,000. **Ref:** Rosa dos Santos (Por).

GKS Katowice 0
Club Brugge 1 (Lorenzo Staelens 20)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 7,000. **Ref:** Ceylan (Tur).

Norrkoping 1 (Jan Hellstrom 21)
Monaco 2 (Roger Mendy 16, George Weah 48)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 4,627. **Ref:** Dellwing (Ger).
Played Oct 22.

Ilves Tampere 1 (Marek Czakon 65)
Roma 1 (Andrea Carnevale 20)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 8,727. **Ref:** Listkiewicz (Pol).

Sion 0
Feyenoord 0
Att: 12,300. **Ref:** Marko (Cz).

Tottenham 3 (Gary Lineker 14, 83, Gordon Durie 32)
FC Porto 1 (Emil Kostadinov 51)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 23,621. **Ref:** Petrovic (Yug).
Tottenham: Thorstvedt - Edinburgh, Van Den Hauwe, Sedgley, Walsh (Houghton 56), Mabbutt, Stewart, Durie, Samways (Bergsson 85), Lineker, Allen.
Porto: Vitor Baia - Pinto, Pereira, Alves, Couto, Filipe, Magalhaes (Toze 46), Kostadinov, Timofte (Kiki 73), Semedo, Andre.

UEFA CUP

SECOND ROUND, FIRST LEGS (OCT 23)

Moscow Spartak 0
AEK Athens 0
Att: 25,000. **Ref:** Hartmann (Hun).

Auxerre 2 (Jean-Marc Ferreri 42, Kalman Kovacs 60)
Liverpool 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Damgaard (Den).

B1903 6 (Michael Manniche 38, 64, Ivan Nielsen 56pen, Kenneth Wegner 61, Brian Kaus 77, Iorn Uldbjerg 88)
Bayern Munich 1 (Mazinho 22, Markus Munch 89)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 12,400. **Ref:** McCluskey (Scot).
Played Oct 22.

Genoa 3 (Carlos Aguilera 14, 59pen, Branco 20)
Dinamo Bucharest 1 (Gianluca Signorini og 88)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Sundell (Swe).

Gent 0
Eintracht Frankfurt 0
Att: 5,750. **Ref:** Loizou (Cyp).
Played Oct 22.

Gijon 2 (Milan Luhovy 44, Ilie Stan og 89)
Steaua Bucharest 2 (Mircea Popa 27, Ilie Dimitrescu 59)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 17,000. **Ref:** Habermann (Ger).
Played Oct 24.

Hamburg 2 (Frank Rohde 36, 89)
CSKA Sofia 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,120. **Ref:** Khusainov (SU).
Played Oct 22.

Lyon 3 (Abdelaziz Bouderbala 59, Milos Bursac 63, Fernandez Leal 78)
Trabzonspor 4 (Seyhmuz 50, Hami 52, 77, Orhan 89)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** McGinlay (Scot).

Cannes 0
Moscow Dynamo 1 (Sergei Kiriakov 43)
Att: 7,000. **Ref:** Lewis (Eng).
Played Oct 22.

Neuchatel Xamax 5 (Hossam Hassan 10, 20, 55, 74, Christophe Bonvin 38)
Celtic 1 (Brian O'Neil 60)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 11,300. **Ref:** Constantin (Bel).

Osasuna 0
Stuttgart 0
Att: 20,000. **Ref:** Courtney (Eng).
Played Oct 22.

PAOK Salonika 0
Tirol 2 (Christof Westerthaler 52, 78)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** behind closed doors. **Ref:** Soriano Aladren (Sp).

Rot-Weiss Erfurt 1 (Uwe Schulz 39)
Ajax Amsterdam 2 (Wim Jonk 46, Dennis Bergkamp 76)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 6,100. **Ref:** Ramos Marcos (Sp).

Sigma Olomouc 2 (Radek Sindelar 60, Jan Marosi 89)
Moscow Torpedo 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Nervik (Nor).

Torino 2 (Gianluca Lentini 2, Enrico Annoni 69)
Boavista 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Hackett (Eng).
Played Oct 24.

Utrecht 1 (Wlodek Smolarek 19)
Real Madrid 3 (Robert Prosinecki 44, Robert Roest og 72, Francisco Villaroya 80)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 17,500. **Ref:** Nemeth (Hun).

CHAMPIONS' CUP

SECOND ROUND, SECOND LEGS (NOV 6)

Anderlecht 2 (Marc Degryse 10, Danny Boffin 89)
PSV Eindhoven 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 28,000. **Ref:** Galler (Swz).
Anderlecht 2-0 on agg
Anderlecht: De Wilde - Houben, De Sart, Rutjes, De Wolf - Boffin, Degryse, Walem - Oliveira (Bosman 59), Nilis (Van Baekel 73), Verheyen.
PSV: Van Breukelen - Gerets, De Jong (Valckx 38), G Popescu, Van Tiggelen, Heintze - Van Aerle, E Koeman, Ellerman (Scheepers 60) - Kieft, Bwalya.
● It had been thought — even by Anderlecht coach Aad de Mos — that PSV would be more dangerous in Brussels than they had been in Eindhoven. In the event their sting was drawn by Degryse. He opened the scoring with a solo effort, missed a 10th-minute penalty after Van Tiggelen fouled Boffin, then created the decisive, last-minute second goal for Boffin. Belgian police arrested 40 fans, mostly Dutch after scuffles around the Parc Astrid stadium.

Apollon 0
Red Star Belgrade 2 (Dejan Savicevic 47, Vladan Lukic 75pen)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Holzmann (Aus).
Red Star 5-1 on agg
Apollon: M Christofi - Andrelis, Kenny, Ioannu, P Christofi, Yiangudakis - G Iosifidis, Ptak, Charalambous (Orfanidis 58) - Tsolakis (Athanasiu 68), Pesirovic.
Red Star: Milosevic - Radinovic, Vasilievic, Belodedic, Tanjga - Jugovic, Stosic, Savicevic, Mihajlovic (Savic 77) - Lukic, Pancev.
● The European champions strolled into the third round. Apollon played most of the second half with only 10 men after their own Yugoslav, Suat Tesirovic, was sent off for dissent following Red Star's opening goal.

Arsenal 1 (Colin Pates 20)
Benfica 3 (Isaias 36, 109, Vasili Kulkov 100)
HT: 1-1. 90min: 1-1. **Att:** 35,815. **Ref:** Schmidhuber (G).
Benfica 4-2 on agg
Arsenal: Seaman - Dixon, Winterburn, Adams, Pates (Bould 106), Davis, Rocastle, Merson, Campbell, Smith, Limpar (Groves 75).
Benfica: Neno - Kulkov, Madeira, Rio Bento, Veloso - Thern, Paneira, Schwarz - Yuran, Rui Costa (Cesar Brito 78), Isaias (Jose Carlos 119).

Brondby 0
Kiev Dynamo 1 (Pavel Yakovenko 7)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 13,712. **Ref:** Irvine (NI).
Kiev 2-1 on agg
Brondby: Krogh - Bjarne Jensen, Okechukwu, Erik Rasmussen, Brian Jensen, John Jensen (Christensen 72), Christofte, Henrik Jensen (Eklund 83), Bjur, Claus Nielsen, Vilfort.
Kiev: Kutepov - Luzhni, Tsveiba, Alexanenkov, Shmatovalenko, Kovalets (Gritsin 70), Yakovenko, Zayets, Salenko, Moroz, Sharan.
● Kiev, having lost most of their stars to western Europe, surprisingly hit back to beat the Danish champions after being held 1-1 in the Ukraine. Soviet international Yakovenko capitalised on an awful backpass by Danish international midfielder Kim Christofte — Brondby's captain — for the only goal of the game. Yakovenko was sent off in the 43rd minute for a foul so Kiev had to survive a second-half Danish onslaught with only 10 men.

IFK Gothenburg 2 (Ola Svensson 24, Johnny Ekstrom 38)
Panathinaikos 2 (Dimitris Saravakos 60, 81pen)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 10,684. **Ref:** Wojcik (Pol).
Panathinaikos 4-2 on agg
IFK: Ravelli - Pedersen, M Nilsson, Svensson, P Eriksson - Mild, T Andersson, Mordt (Lekseel 75) - Ekstrom, Eskelinen (Johansson 80), Lindqvist.
Panathinaikos: Wandzik - Apostolakis, Mavridis, Karageorgiu, Kalitzakis - Kalantzis, Christodoulu, Georgakopoulos (Antoniu 55), Athanasiadis - Maragos, Saravakos.
● Panathinaikos staged a remarkable second-half comeback to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. Their hero was the top current Greek footballer, Saravakos, who scored both goals the first a solo, the second a penalty. Saravakos was a survivor of the Panathinaikos team which had beaten IFK in the Champions' Cup six years ago. Earlier IFK the lead through first-half headers from Svensson and Ekstrom.

Kaiserslautern 3 (Demir Hotic 35, 50, Bjarne Goldbaek 76)
Barcelona 1 (Jose Maria Bakero 89)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,200. **Ref:** Fredriksson (Swe).
Barcelona on away goals: 3-3 agg
Kaiserslautern: Ehrmann - Wolfgang Funkel, Lelle (Kranz 85), Scherr, Haber, Goldbaek, Hotic, Hoffmann, Oliver Schaefer, Witeczek, Kuntz.
Barcelona: Zubizarreta - Koeman, Nando, Guardiola (Nadai 80), Eusebio, Cristobal, Bakero, Witschge, Beguiristain (Serna 65), Michael Laudrup, Stoichkov.
● Johan Cruyff's Barcelona squeezed into the third round thanks to a last-minute goal from Bakero, which provided an away-goal advantage. Earlier Kaiserslautern thought they had done enough to progress thanks to headers from Yugoslav Demir Hotic and a further goal from Denmark's Goldbaek. With time running out, however, Bakero _ one of the smallest men on the pitch — headed home a Ronald Koeman free kick.

Sampdoria 3 (Attilio Lombardo 9, Gianluca Vialli 26, 46)
Kispest-Honved 1 (Fausto Pari og 65)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Larsson (Swe).
Sampdoria 4-3 on agg
Sampdoria: Pagliuca - Mannini (Lanna 18), Vierchowod, Pari - Cerezo, Lombardo, Katanec (Invernizzi 63), Silas - Vialli, Mancini.
Kispest: Gulyas - Berczy, Csabi, Cseh (Cservenkai 77) - Plokai, Urbanyi, Pisont, Kovavcs, Csehi (Halmai 46) - Vincze, Negrau.
● Sampdoria shook off poor from in the Italian league to dominate the first half and overtake the Hungarians' 2-1 first-leg advantage. Immediately after half-time Italy striker Vialli collected a second goal but then a defensive mistake by Pari _ putting through his own goal — meant Sampdoria's fans had to endure a tense last 25 minutes. Only a superb save by Gianluca Pagliuca, from Romanian forward Adrian Negrau, in the 80th minute, kept Sampdoria alive.

Sparta Praha 2 (Martin Frydek 36, Horst Siegl 69)
Marseille 1 (Pele 87)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 32,500. **Ref:** Gunn (Eng).
Sparta on away goals: 4-4 agg
Sparta: Kouba - Hornak, Novotny, Vrabec, Frydek (Matta 88), Mistr, Nemecek, Nemec, Lavicka, Siegl (Cerny 81), Kukleta.
Marseille: Olmeta - Amoros, Mozer, Casoni, Boli, Bails (Angloma 74), Steven, Deschamps, Pele, Papin, Waddle.
● A nasty shock for multi-millionaire Bernard Tapie's French champions. Sparta, having beaten Glasgow Rangers on away goals in the first round, repeated the trick against Papin, Waddle and Co. Sparta dominated the match and cut off Papin's supply of the ball. Frydek put them ahead with a shot on the rebound after his first effort had been blocked. Then Siegl made it 2-0 with a shot from the edge of the penalty box. Roman Kukleta hit a post with a 75th-miniute free kick before Pele pulled back a late consolation for Marseille.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

SECOND ROUND, SECOND LEGS (NOV 6 UNLESS STATED)

Banik Ostrava 1 (Zbynek Ollender 30)
Galatasaray 2 (Yusuf 39, Roman Kosecki 43pen)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Salomir (Rom).
Galatasaray on away goals: 2-2 agg
● Poland striker Roman Kosecki

Papin . . . 1991 World Player of the Year.

France . . . 1991 World Team of the Year.

PAST WINNERS

WORLD FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

1982 — 1: Paolo Rossi (Juventus & Italy) 23, 2: Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Bayern M, W Germany) 14, 3: Paolo Roberto Falcao (Roma & Brazil) 12.
1983 — 1: Zico (Udinese & Brazil) 28, 2: Michel Platini (Juventus & France) 24, 3: Paolo Roberto Falcao (Roma & Brazil) 18.
1984 — 1: Michel Platini (Juventus & France) 54, 2: Ian Rush (Liverpool & Wales) 9, 3: Zico (Udinese & Brazil) 7.
1985 — 1: Michel Platini (Juventus & France) 20.6, 2: Preben Elkjaer (Verona & Denmark) 11.2, 3: Diego Maradona (Napoli & Argentina) 7.
1986 — 1: Diego Maradona (Napoli & Argentina) 35.8, 2: Igor Belanov (Kiev Dynamo & Sov.Union) 6.2, 3: Gary Lineker (Barcelona & England) 5.7.
1987 — 1: Ruud Gullit (Milan & Holland) 38.5, 2: Diego Maradona (Napoli & Argentina) 13.1, 3: Marco Van Basten (Milan & Holland) 8.8.
1988 — 1: Marco Van Basten (Milan & Holland) 43, 2: Ruud Gullit (Milan & Holland) 21, 3: Frank Rijkaard (Milan & Hollandi 7.
1989 — 1: Ruud Gullit (Milan & Holland) 24, 2: Marco Van Basten (Milan & Holland) 18, 3: Bebeto (Flamengo/Vasco da Gama & Brazil) 10.
1990 — 1: Lothar Matthaus (Internazionale & Germany) 21.9, 2: Salvatore Schillaci (Juventus & Italy) 12.1, 3: Diego Maradona (Napoli & Argentina) 6.6.

WORLD MANAGER OF THE YEAR

1982 — 1: Enzo Bearzot (Italy) 49, 2: Tele Santana (Brazil) 18, 3: Michel Hidalgo (France) 7.
1983 — 1: Sepp Piontek (Denmark) 29, 2: Ernst Happel (Hamburg) 27, 3: Nils Liedholm (Roma) 10.
1984 — 1: Michel Hidalgo (France) 30, 2: Joe Fagan (Liverpool) 15, 3: Sepp Piontek (Denmark) 8.
1985 — 1: Terry Venables (Barcelona) 29.8, 2: Howard Kendall (Everton) 28.6, 3: Giovanni Trapattoni (Juventus) 5.3.
1986 — 1: Guy Thys (Belgium) 15.4, 2: Valeri Lobanovsky (Kiev Dynamo & Sov Union) 14.7, 3: Kenny Dalglish (Liverpool) 14.4.
1987 — 1: Johan Cruyff (Ajax Amsterdam) 24.6, 2: Udo Lattek (Koln) 17.6, 3: Leo Beenhakker (Real Madrid) 16.5.
1988 — 1: Rinus Michels (Holland/Bayer Leverkusen) 48, 2: Jackie Charlton (Rep.Ireland) 13, 3: Arrigo Sacchi (Milan) 6.
1989 — 1: Arrigo Sacchi (Milan) 42, 2: Sebastiao Lazaroni (Brazil) 25, 3: George Graham (Arsenal) 8.
1990 — 1: Franz Beckenbauer (West Germany) 52.7, 2: Bora Milutinovic (Costa Rica) 9.3, 3: Carlos Bilardo (Argentina) 6.3

WORLD TEAM OF THE YEAR

1982 — 1: Brazil 30, 2: Italy 26, 3: Flamengo (Brz) 20.
1983 — 1: Hamburg 29, 2: Aberdeen 15, 3: Denmark 11.
1984 — 1: France 45, 2: Liverpool 19, 3: Juventus 6.
1985 — 1: Everton 42.3, 2: Juventus 8.8, 3: Verona 7.4.
1986 — 1: Argentina 14.59, 2: Kiev Dynamo 14.56, 3: Denmark 8.6.
1987 — 1: FC Porto 37.7, 2: Ajax Amsterdam 18.9, 3: Real Madrid 16.4.
1988 — 1: Holland 43, 2: PSV Eindhoven 13, 3: Liverpool 10.
1989 — 1: Milan 51, 2: Brazil 23, 3: Arsenal 7.
1990 — 1: West Germany 28.4, 2: Milan 17.6, 3: Cameroon 9.6.

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TOP GUN IN THE 1994 WORLD CUP TEAM

IN THE SEAT

Golden boys . . . USSF president Alan Rothenberg, on the left, and the FIFA president, Joao Havelange, with the World Cup.

work to conform to football standards but FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni said: "I cannot imagine the World Cup in the United States without New York."

One of the most intriguing aspects of the 19 stadiums on offer, themselves reduced from an initial 26, is that both indoor arenas originally put forward have been retained on the list, the Silverdome in Pontiac just outside Detroit, and the Superdome arena in New Orleans.

"A stadium won't be eliminated simply because it is indoor," Rothenberg said. "We have conducted tests and it is clear that indoor grass can be grown and will stay durable for as long as we need it."

Rothenberg is convinced that innovations such as indoor venues and replaying the final in case of a draw will benefit the sport.

He also would like to see the offside trap outlawed, although this is unlikely to happen, and give linesmen more responsibility at free-kicks "so that players can't cheat when the referee's back is turned."

Rothenberg is delighted at recent FIFA moves to reduce backpassing by penalising the offender. "It is the first step towards emphasising continuous action. I hope it's the first of many ideas.

Influence

"Soccer purists certainly don't want to hear Americans criticising this wonderful game. But I come from a basketball background and that sport exploded after a couple of changes to jazz it up. I believe soccer has got to take the same philosophy.

"FIFA are going to have to react like business people to make it more attractive.

"Look how conservative Italy was. The natural conservatism of coaches has to be broken down.

"If they are going to lose, they prefer to lose 1-0 than by trying to play attacking soccer and lose 4-1."

One influence behind US moves to revolutionise — some would say cheapen — the sport is, presumably, the need to woo television companies.

Sport depends more on TV money and exposure in the United States than anywhere else. World title fights are delayed, American football plays carefully manipulated, always so that TV has the final say.

Rothenberg says TV can't harm the World Cup, however, and that no commercial interests will intervene into the smooth transmission of matches. At least 11 games will be shown live on networks, and the rest will go out on cable.

"We will make absolutely sure that commercials do not interrupt the play, that we fit them in when and where we have to," Rothenberg stressed. Excellent news. That means no ads just as Germany or Italy are about to take a penalty.

What about the time difference between the US and Europe? "Day games are easy because they will be prime time in Europe. Night games are a little trickier.

"We could start matches at four or five in the afternoon on the East coast which is 10 pm in Europe. They managed it in Mexico in 1986 so why can't we? I don't see any problems either with teams travelling from coast to coast. All our sports are played this way, and three hours doesn't give you jetlag."

Involved

As I got up to leave, Rothenberg beckoned me back. "I don't mean to minimise the amount of work that is involved in the areas of security, transportation, accreditations, tickets, etc. I just don't see anything that really worries me."

Typical American confidence, but as with all major sporting events, cometh the time, cometh the headaches. Let's hope Rothenberg and his crew are prepared.

PRESS BOX

NEIL HARMAN

Daily Mail

No1 AT LAST.. YEARS TO

Safe . . . Woods of Wednesday clears despite a challenge from Lee Chapman of Leeds United.

IF English football has nothing else to commend it, it has always had a safe pair of hands.

As far as you might like to look back, the goalkeepers who have worn the England shirt have been secure, safe, commendable athletes and decent chaps, not the kind of eccentrics who have peopled so many international goal areas.

The current resident is Chris Woods, the 32-year-old son of a farming family from the footballing outback of Boston in Lincolnshire. He is boyish of features, strong of spirit, and so soft-spoken.

Woods had been in the queue behind Peter Shilton for what seemed an age, the eternal reserve, always gracious, but fed up with being asked whether he was fed up that he couldn't get Shilton out of the way.

Not until Shilton, the 42-year-old with a world record 125 caps for a goalkeeper, decided to retire after the 1990 World Cup did Woods see his chance.

Then, alarmingly for him, Arsenal's David Seaman began to have one of those seasons that goalkeepers have perhaps once in a lifetime.

Graham Taylor, England's new manager, saw that he had two goalkeepers who were worth a place in his side. So Woods had to wait and endure more agonies as Seaman was granted his opportunity.

Turning

Woods played in the first three of Taylor's internationals, conceding one goal, against the Republic of Ireland, which was the initial stutter along England's route to their qualification for the European Championship.

Then Seaman was given three games, and he too conceded one goal — against the Irish. Woods played against the Soviet Union and Seaman against Argentina, before the England turning point was reached.

Arsenal manager George Graham, fresh from his side's success in re-capturing the First Division title, did not want Seaman to go on a summer tour to Australasia and the Far East which had become roundly condemned as an imposition on tired players. Woods certainly did not mind.

Seaman went to Majorca to relax with Arsenal, Woods kept goal in the four internationals and the job, for the foreseeable future was his. Wasn't it?

He had hardly returned when it was announced that his club Rangers were ready to pay more than £1 million for Hibernian's Andy Goram, the Scottish No. 1. Woods went off on a family holiday to Florida not knowing what his club future would be and how such uncertainty would affect his international prospects.

"I couldn't relax or enjoy the holiday," he said. "One day the kids would be happy because we'd be off to Disneyland and they could do

FRANCE BY ANDRE DULOS

ROUX'S ROUNDABOUT REPLY

WHEN Auxerre so unexpectedly beat Liverpool in that first leg of the UEFA Cup, you might have said that it was a roundabout reply by Guy Roux to Bernard Tapie.

As I write, Marseille are almost inevitably sailing along at the top of the French Championship with George Weah and Monaco's challenge fading, as is that of Artur Jorge and Paris Saint Germain.

Auxerre, quite certainly feeling the loss of Enzo Scifo, even if he does go wild and get himself sent off for kicking Lothar Matthaus in the Torino-Inter game, pose no challenge. They never do.

Which is why when Roux made his extraordinary attack on Tapie and Marseille, somewhat reminiscent of the kind of things Franco Zeffirelli keeps saying about Juventus, Tapie was able to come back at him and ask what Roux had ever won.

The answer, I suppose, might be stability and respect for a resilient club in a tiny city, whose resilience mirrors Roux's own. Roux, somewhat out of order it must be admitted, was railing against the bad decisions Auxerre and other clubs allegedly got from referees when playing Marseille.

Tapie then jeered at him.

Roux, you might say, is Auxerre.

In over 30 years as player, coach, manager and even groundsman, he has brought the club into the upper echelon and kept it there, largely by virtue of a superb youth policy.

Impressed

His international right-winger, Cocard, comes from far afield, was badly wanted by at least two much richer clubs, but still plumped for Auxerre because he was so impressed by their youth scheme. He certainly has not lived to regret it.

Now, in its way perhaps an even greater coup, we have the two English teenagers who spurned advances from some of the richest clubs in England because they were so taken with the way the Auxerre youth scheme worked. That I think must have been almost as good as winning a title for Auxerre, as far as Roux was concerned.

But whatever the performances of our club teams in Europe, it is the national team who have given French football such a marvellous boost, under the inspired direction of Michel Platini. So much for certificates, coaching courses and club experience, when it comes to the international game.

The moral seems to be that you can do it or you can't, though of course it does make a difference if you have been one of the greatest players your country has ever produced.

Platini, as we know, is irrepressible. In Turin they still remind him of the way he allegedly forced Giampiero Boniperti out of his Juventus presidency, when publishing an interview in *La Stampa*, owned by the Juventus-owning Agnelli family. He accused Boniperti of wasting Agnelli's money: Boni not long afterwards resigned, though now he is back.

Platini also had digs at Roberto Baggio, now playing for his own club, and at Paul Gascoigne.

Baggio, he averred, had no real position on the field. He wasn't a true striker, nor was he a midfield general. But if Platini had him in France, he said, what a player he could make him! Baggio was not a bit pleased.

As for Gazza, Platini seemed to be echoing Tapie on the subject of Roux when he asked what he had ever won, and jested about his exploits at the bar overshadowing his exploits on the field.

But here once more the provocative Platini ended on a positive note, saying, more or less, what a player Gazza was, all the same!

If there is a secret of France's success under Platini, other than the elan which he undoubtedly gives it, what can it be? That victory in Seville, where Spain had not lost a match for decades, was, even if France had qualified for Sweden already, a tremendous testimony to the fighting spirit of the side. A superb team spirit has certainly made a huge contribution.

Impeccable

There is now a group of at least 16 players from whom Platini can draw his 11, and their backgrounds are fascinatingly varied.

There are those of Spanish descent, such as Luis Fernandez and Manuel Amoros, both of whom, ironically, took part in the win in Seville. There are players born in Africa, and even Tahiti. Platini is, of course, of Italian descent.

But it would be very wrong to forget the contribution of a man who once taught in a Liverpool school, whose English is impeccable; Gerard Houllier, who seems to have found his perfect niche as assistant to Platini, giving a great contribution to the team's technique and tactics.

He and Platini between them work out the methods, with Platini obviously having the last word. But there can be no doubt that what Houllier brings to the team is quite invaluable, and he is to be found with it on the training field, too.

Roux . . . has done a splendid job in keeping Auxerre in the top flight.

Jean-Pierre Papin, so horribly hit in the face recently, when a thug threw a bottle at him, put him out of the game and condemned Marseille to lose, is the goal-scorer complete. As opposed to his first World Cup, in Mexico, when his erratic finishing in the end cost France quite dear.

Papin is forever working on his volleying in training, and it pays off in games. His 17 goals in 32 international games still put him a long way behind Platini, with 41 in 71, but on average, 0.53 per match as opposed to 0.56, he is very close behind, indeed.

Eric Cantona, you will have noticed is back. He played the whole game in Seville, and even if he wasn't among France's best that evening — the Napoli sweeper Laurent Blanc and the Marseille midfielder Didier Deschamps were the pick of the bunch — he didn't disgrace himself.

His form this season for his new club, Nimes, sometimes has been erratic but as he hoped and said when he went there, he has regained his place in the French squad, and will no doubt again be among those present next June in Sweden.

DENMARK BY JIM HOLDEN

Twins batter Bayern

DYNAMIC teenage twins Michael and Martin Johansen have given B1903 and Danish soccer in general a tremendous lift this season.

They were at the heart of the amazing 6-2 triumph against Bayern Munich, and have shown there could be a future alternative to the brothers Laudrup.

They are identical, 19, only 5ft 5ins high, with red hair. In the second half against Bayern when B1903 scored five goals, they played as a pair just behind veteran centre-forward Michael Manniche, creating constant havoc for Thomas Berthold and company.

Manniche, a former Danish international who spent several seasons with Benfica, said: "They are wonderful footballers with unlimited potential.

"If they can continue to progress they will be a real force for Denmark."

It's an extraordinary sight, the 6ft 3ins Manniche in combination with the Johansen twins. "I can't see them when I'm playing, but I know when they're coming because the grass starts to whistle," he said.

B1903 are lucky to have the boys. They were with KB as juniors before moving to PSV Eindhoven in an exchange scheme.

PSV, with their Danish assistant trainer Frank Arnesen, were keen to take them.

But the deal fell through last summer because PSV would not agree to a clause that the twins could go home if the move did not work out.

Imposing

Now they are worth a conservative estimate of £800,000 each in the transfer market after helping B1903 into the third round of the UEFA Cup for the first time, with victories against Aberdeen and Bayern.

The scouts are flocking to watch, but with B1903's merger with KB to take effect next summer, the club may yet be able to keep them.

From being relegation material last season, B1903 have been transformed by the return of former coach Benny Johansen. He has assembled the most attractive side in the country, with a rich blend of youth and experience.

Manniche's presence is imposing in attack, while the defence is organised superbly by 35-year-old Ivan Nielsen, the last of the great "Dynamite" side still playing in the domestic league.

He is partnered at the back by Kenneth Wegner, once of Charlton, and newly-capped Danish international Torben Piechnik.

The midfield motor is another former international, Pierre Larsen, complemented by Brian Kaus and Jorgen Juul Jensen.

In goal there is Palle Petersen, who played the game of his life to restrict Bayern to a 1-0 win in the second leg of the UEFA Cup.

As well as surprising the whole of European soccer with the demolition of Bayern, B1903 are also making a determined bid to land the Danish title in the first season of the Superliga, played in winter rather than summer.

After 16 games the club lay second in the table, only two points behind defending champions Brondby.

The clubs drew 1-1 before a crowd of 14,000, massive for Denmark.

Brondby earned an excellent 1-1 draw away to Kiev Dynamo in the first leg of their Champions' cup tie.

At home they dominated the match, but a moment of nonchalance by Kim Christofte cost a goal, and Kiev's defence held out for a narrow victory.

converted a vital penalty just before half-time, providing his Istanbul club with the all-important away goal.

Club Brugge 3 (Claude Verspaille 50, Lorenzo Staelens 64, Marc Schaessens 73)
GKS Katowice 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 26,000. **Ref:** Burge (Wales).
Brugge 4-0 on agg
● Verspaille headed Brugge further into the lead from a corner five-minutes after half-time. Staelens scored with a header of his own and substitute Schaessens scored with his first touch of the ball to climax a fine solo action by Danie Amokachi.

Feyenoord 0
Sion 0
Att: 25,000. **Ref:** Nielsen (Den).
Feyenoord 5-3 on pens: 0-0 agg
● Feyenoord won the first penalty shoot-out in the club's history to squeeze into the quarter-finals. Their hero was goalkeeper Ed De Goey, who saved the second Sion spot-kick, taken by Michel Sautier. Feyenoord, led by veteran skipper John Metgod, converted all their five kicks.

Roma 5 (Giuseppe Giannini 1, Ruggiero Rizzitelli 3, Fabrizio Di Mauro 14, Andrea Carnevale 48, 77)
Ilves Tampere 2 (Marek Czakon 80, 89)
HT: 3-0. **Att:** 25,000. **Ref:** Agius (Mal).
Roma 6-3 on agg
● Roma bounced back from a 4-1 weekend defeat by Milan — scoring twice in the first three minutes to virtually seal the tie. They did so despite the absence of injured German World Cup-winning spearhead Rudi Voller. Giannini opened the scoring with a shot which was deflected into the Ilves net by Janne Makela. Then Rizzitelli headed home a corner by German midfielder Thomas Hassler. In the second half Carnevale, recently returned to action after a one-year dope ban, scored twice for Roma. His first involved a solo dribble round the Finns' teenage goalkeeper, Teuvo Moilanen, on a sharp counter-attack. In the last ten minutes Ilves gained two consolation goals from their Polish striker Marek Czakon.

Manchester United 1 (Mark Hughes 4)
Atletico Madrid 1 (Bernd Schuster 68)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 39,654. **Ref:** Guy Goethals (Bel).
Atletico Madrid 4-1 on agg
Man Utd: Walsh - Parker, Blackmore, Bruce, Webb, Phelan (Martin 89), Robson, Robins (Pallister 63), McClair, Hughes, Giggs.
At Madrid: Abel (Diaz 70) - Tomas, Antonio, Solozabal, Donato, Juanito Rodriguez, Manolo (Soler 57), Schuster, Vizcaino, Futre, Moya.
● Holders United lost their grip on the Cup-winners' Cup despite pulling one goal back after only four minutes when Mark Hughes headed home a Bryan Robson cross. United's fans provided full-volume support for their team but as time went on Atletico's superior technique began to tell. The fact that United's reserve goalkeeper Gary Walsh (Peter Schmeichel was rested so all four outfield "foreigners" could play) was man of the match emphasises how well Atletico played. They were well worth their 68th-minute equaliser from German veteran Schuster. United manager Alex Ferguson, generous in defeat, tipped Atletico to go on and win the competition.

Monaco 1 (Christophe Robert 26)
Norrkoping 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 6,000. **Ref:** Lo Bello (It).
Monaco 1-0 on agg

Porto 0
Tottenham 0
Att: 45,000. **Ref:** Mikkelsen (Den). Played Nov 7.
Tottenham 3-1 on agg

Ferencvaros 0
Werder Bremen 1 (Marco Bode 48)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 19,000. **Ref:** Halle (Nor).
Bremen 4-2 on agg
Ferencvaros: Balogh - Simon, Telek, Sergei Kuznetsov, Paling, Lipcsei, Szenes, Jozsef Keller, Wukovics, Albert, Deszatnik (Racz).
Bremen: Reck - Wolter, Bratseth, Hermann, Eilts, Borowka, Bode, Votava, Harttgen (Legat), Rufer, Neubarth.

UEFA CUP

SECOND ROUND, SECOND LEGS (NOV 6)

Ajax Amsterdam 3 (Stefan Pettersson 30, Blind 58, John Van Loen 84)
Rot-Weiss Erfurt 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000 (in Dusseldorf). **Ref:** Kelly (Ire).
Ajax 5-1 on agg
● Outside the ground around 100 hooligans were arrested by police. Inside Ajax had no problem finishing off Erfurt, who were bottom of the regionalised second division.

Bayern Munich 1 (Mazinho II 89)
B1903 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 21,000. **Ref:** Urio Velazquez (Sp).
Played Nov 5.
B1903 6-3 on agg
Bayern: Hillringhaus - Berthold (Wohlfarth 44), Babbel, Effenberg, Sternkopf, Schwabl, Thon, Bender, Labbadia, Mazinho.
B1903: Palle Petersen - Ivan Nielsen, Wegener, Tur, Pierre Larsen, Piechnik, Kaus (Michael Johansen 65), Manniche, Uldbjerg, Jorgen Jensen (Giolbas 79), Lars Nielsen.
● Bayern squandered a string of chances in their vain attempt to overcome that 6-2 humiliation of the first leg. Stefan Effenberg saw one early effort well saved by keeper Petersen and another shot tipped against the bar. Bayern's newly-appointed vice-president, Franz Beckenbauer, said later: "We tried our hardest but you couldn't expect any more of this team. We need new, experienced players."

Boavista 0
Torino 0
Att: 10,000. **Ref:** Karlsson (Swe).
Torino 2-0 on agg
● Several people were slightly injured when Portuguese riot police charged a group of around 100 Italian fans trying to find tickets for the game. In another incident inside the ground in Oporto, an object was thrown at the Torino keeper, Luca Marchegiani. Boavista came close in the first half when Ricky Owubokiri hit a post. At the other end Torino's Roberto Mussi saw a shot rebound off the crossbar. Torino played the second half with 10 men after Lentini was sent off in the 43rd minute for wrestling Fernando Mendes to the ground.

Celtic 1 (Joe Miller 52)
Xamax Neuchatel 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,454. **Ref:** Pairetto (It)
Xamax 5-2 on agg
Celtic: Bonner - McNally, Wdowczyk, O'Neil, Whyte, Galloway, Miller, McStay, Coyne, Nicholas, Collins.
Xamax: Delay - Fenel, Fernandez, Luthi, Ramzy, Lerret, Sutter, Vernier, H Hassan, I Hassan, Bonvin.

Moscow Dynamo 1 (Viktor Kobelyev 43pen)
Cannes 1 (Omam Biyik 9)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Van den Wijngaert (Bel).
Moscow Dynamo 2-1 on agg

CSKA Sofia 1 (Emil Dimitrov 44pen)
Hamburg 4 (Harald Schporl 34, 83, Jan Furtok 56pen, Jorge Bode 86)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 35,000. **Ref:** Pezzella (It).
Hamburg 6-1 on aggregate.

Dinamo Bucharest 2 (Gabor Gerstenmajer 68, Tudorel Christea 88)
Genoa 2 (Adrian Matei 9 og, Carlos Aguilera 55)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Lewis (Eng).
Genoa 5-3 on agg
Dinamo: Stelea - Kader (Mihaiescu 53), Matei, Cristea, Selymesi, Cheregi, Gerstenmajer, Pana (Atomulesei 60), Munteanu, Demollari, Moga.
Genoa: Braglia - Torrente, Caricola, Signorini, Eranio, Branco, Bortolozzi, Ruotolo, Onorati, Skuhravy, Aguilera.
● Genoa deserved their win but the Dinamo fans were furious when referee Ray Lewis refused to rule out the second Genoa goal for offside against the Uruguayan, Aguilera.

Eintracht Frankfurt 0
Gent 1 (Vandenbergh 35)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 11,500. **Ref:** Delmer (Fr).
Gent 1-0 on agg
● Frankfurt, German league leaders, wasted their chances. When Uwe Bein did get the ball in the Belgian net, the "goal" was disallowed because referee Delmer had not given permission for a quick free kick. Gent's heroes were the veteran centre forward Erwin Vandenbergh and their Hungarian international goalkeeper, Zsolt Petry.

Liverpool 3 (Jan Molby 4pen, Mike Marsh 30, Mark Walters 83)
Auxerre 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 23,094. **Ref:** Silva Valente (Por).
Liverpool 3-2 on agg
Liverpool: Grobbelaar - Ablett, Burrows, Marsh, Molby, Tanner, McManaman, Houghton, Rush, Walters, McMahon.
Auxerre: Martini - *Darras, Kaczmarek (Mazzolini 76), Roche, Mahe, Guerreiro, Cocard, Dutuel, Kovacs (Otokore 18), Ferreri, Vahirua. *Darras sent off, 70min.
● Memories of Liverpool glory nights came flooding back as the Reds picked themselves up off the floor to overturn Auxerre's two-goal advantage. An early trip on McManaman by Mahe gave Jan Molby the chance to open the scoring from a penalty. On the halfhour Molby was involved again, giving Houghton the chance to cross for Marsh to square the aggregate. Auxerre were unfortunate to lose Hungarian striker Kovacs because of injury in the first half and see defender Darras harshly sent off for a second bookable offence in the second half. Liverpool took advantage seven minutes from time when Mark Walters justified his £1.2million summer capture from Rangers.

AEK Athens 2 (Daniel Batista 64, Vasilis Dimitriadis 75)
Moscow Spartak 1 (Alexander Mostovoi 15pen)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Martin Navarrete (Sp).
AEK 2-1 on agg
● Two goals in the last 26 minutes turned this tie on its head. A Mostovoi penalty put Spartak into an early lead. But, after the interval, AEK hit back strongly with an equaliser from Batista and a header by Dimitriadis after a corner.

Moscow Torpedo 0
Sigma Olomouc 0
Att: 14,000. **Ref:** Chonshev (Bul).
Sigma 2-0 on agg

Real Madrid 1 (Gheorghe Hagi 18)
Utrecht 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 23,000. **Ref:** Muhmenthaler (Swz).
Real Madrid 4-1 on agg
● Madrid, leading 3-1 from the first leg, rested several stars such as Brazil defender Ricardo Rocha and Spain striker Emilio Butragueno. They were also without the injured Yugoslav, Robert Prosinecki. However, that still left the £2million Romanian, Gheorghe Hagi, to decide the match with a free kick which deceived goalkeeper Jan Willem Van Ede.

Steaua Bucharest 1 (Mircea Popa 60)
Gijon 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 18,000. **Ref:** Quiniou (Fr).
Steaua 4-3 on agg

Stuttgart 2 (Guido Buchwald 80, Eyjoelfur Sverrisson 89)
Osasuna 3 (Urban 8, 47, Merino 17)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 9,500. **Ref:** Van der Ende (Hol).
Osasuna 3-2 on agg
● Stuttgart joined the mass exit by German clubs from European competition. They lost both the tie and the match in the first half. Osasuna seized a 2-0 half-time lead and increased it through Poland's Jan Urban after the break. In the last ten minutes Stuttgart hit back with goals from World Cup hero Buchwald and the Icelandic international, Sverrisson.

Tirol 2 (Christoph Westerthaler 27, 66)
PAOK Salonika 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000. **Ref:** Christov (Cz).
Tirol 4-0 on agg

Trabzonspor 4 (Hami 17, 80, Hamdi 27, Orhan 45)
Lyon 1 (Milos Bursac 41)
HT: 3-1. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Assenmacher (G).
Trabzonspor 8-4 on agg

EURO LEAGUE RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY,SEPT 15

AUSTRIA

St. Polten 0, Alpine 0
Stahl Linz 2, Sturm Graz 1
Rapid Wien 3, Vienna 0
FC Tirol 3, Austria Wien 4
Austria Salzburg 2, Vorwarts Steyr 0
Admira Wacker 2, Kremser SC 1

BELGIUM Weekend

Charleroi 1 (Wuyts 80 pen), **Mechelen 2** (Andersson 38, 43). **Att:** 10,000.
Lierse 2 (Brylle 6, Pauwels 65), **Genk 1** (Goots 86). **Att:** 6,500.
FC Liege 0, Anderlecht 1 (Nilis 5). **Att:** 17,500.
Beveren 3 (Van Vossen 12, Lodders 71, Van Vossen pen 90), **Gent 1** (Viscaal pen 69). **Att:** 10,000.
Club Brugge 2 (Verspaille 17, Dziubinski 87), **Aalst 0**. **Att:** 12,000.
Ekeren 1 (Schmoller 26), **Antwerp 0**. **Att:** 8,000.
Waregem 1 (Niederbacher 87), **Standard 2** (Dekenne o.g. 41, Van Rooy pen 90). **Att:** 5,500.
Molenbeek 2 (Van Veldhoven 5, Tipuric o.g. 8), **Cercle Brugge 3** (Karacic 10, Weber 36, 55). **Att:** 6,000.
Lokeren 3 (Lembi 35, Samson, 88, 90) **Kortrijk 1** (Vidmar 32). **Att:** 3,500.

ENGLAND Weekend

Chelsea 0, Leeds 1 (Shutt 61). **Att:** 23,439.
Coventry 1 (Furlong 47), **Notts County 0**. **Att:** 10,685.
Crystal Palace 1 (Bright 85), **Arsenal 4** (Campbell 16, 85, Smith 55, Thomas 57). **Att:** 24,228.
Liverpool 1 (Walters 39 pen), **Aston Villa 1** (Richardson 25). **Att:** 38,400.
Luton Town 2 (Harford 85, 89), **Oldham 1** (Marshall 52). **Att:** 9,006.
Manchester City 0, Sheffield Wed 1 (Williams 73). **Att:** 29,453.
Norwich City 2 (Fox 12, Gordon 38), **West Ham United 1** (Small 15). **Att:** 15,348.
Nottingham Forest 4 (Keane 11, 47, Black 44, Elkins o.g. 62), **Wimbledon 2** (McGee 2, Fashanu 76 pen). **Att:** 19,707.
Sheffield United 2 (Hoyland 64, Bryson 72), **Everton 1** (Beardsley 7). **Att:** 19,817.
Southampton 0, Manchester United 1 (Hughes 48). **Att:** 19,817.
Tottenham 2 (Lineker 72, 75), **QPR 0**. **Att:** 30,059.

FRANCE Weekend

St. Etienne 0, Monaco 1 (Weah 54). **Att:** 22,002.
Metz 2 (Gailliot 32, Calderaro 53), **Auxerre 1** (Roche 58). **Att:** 13,729.
Paris SG 2 (Bravo 41, Perez 89), **Lille 0**. **Att:** 18,000
Sochaux 2 (Prat 26, Durand o.g. 35), **Marseille 3** (Waddle 5, Deschamps 69, Pele 71). **Att:** 14,900.
Nimes 1 (Cisse 39), **Le Havre 0**. **Att:** 16,156.
Toulouse 1 (Marcico 14), **Montpellier 1** (Ziober 84). **Att:** 9,884.
Caen 5 (Paille 24, pen 33, 54, 83, Pickeu 81), **Nancy 1** (Gava 21). **Att:** 7,992.
Toulon 4 (Rhinan 28, Marquet pen 59, Bray o.g. 87, Revelles 88), **Cannes 3** (Asanovic pen 36, 58, Zidane 89). **Att:** 7,000.
Lens 0, Nantes 0. **Att:** 23,346.
Rennes 0, Lyon 2 (Roche 1, Bouderbala 28). **Att:** 10,207.

GERMANY Midweek — CUP

Viktoria Koln 1 Waldhof Mannheim 0

Weekend

VfL Bochum 3 (Helmig 5, Heinemann pen 48, Epp 85), **Borussia Mg 1** (Schulz 83). **Att:** 19,000.
F. Dusseldorf 1 (Schuberth 83), **MSV Duisburg 1** (Puszamszies 64). **Att:** 20,000.
Hansa Rostock 1 (Schlunz 84), **Karlsruher SC 2** (Rolff 50, Wittwer 85). **Att:** 12,000.
Dynamo Dresden 3 (Scholz 32, Gutschow 55, Allievi 65), **Wattenscheid 0**. **Att:** 13,000.
Schalke 04 0, Bayer Leverkusen 0. **Att:** 43,000.
Hamburger SV 1 (Eck 45), **Bayern Munich 0**. **Att:** 52,400.
Kaiserslautern 4 (Degen 35, 40, 66, Hotic 78), **Borussia Dortmund 0**. **Att:** 34,000.
FC Koln 1 (Banach 40), **VfB Stuttgart 1** (Walter 24). **Att:** 20,000.
Stuttgarter Kickers 2 (Tattermusch 48, Vollmer 78), **Werder Bremen 1** (Allofs 17). **Att:** 8,000.
Eintracht Frankfurt 2 (Bein 24, Falkenmayer 33), **Nurnberg 2** (Brunner 52, Eckstein 74). **Att:** 30,000.

GREECE

AEK Athens 2, Korinthos 1
OFI Crete 1, Panionios 1
Panathinaikos 3, Aris Salonica 0
Panachaiki P 1, Doxa Drama 0
Olympiakos 2, Ethnikos 0
Heraklis 2, Xanthi 0
PAOK 2, Athinaikos 1
Larissa 3, Serres 1
Pierikos 3, Apollon 1

HOLLAND Weekend

MVV 1 (Meijer 63), **VVV 0**. **Att:** 4,500.
RKC 3 (Decheiver 26, 67, Brands 45), **FC Den Haag 0**. **Att:** 3,200.
PSV Eindhoven 2 (Ellerman 22, 43), **Roda JC 1** (Hofman 23). **Att:** 23,800.
FC Groningen v Ajax — postponed.
Feyenoord 2 (Fraser 41, Taument 83), **SVV/Dordrecht 0**. **Att:** 15,479.
FC Volendam 0, Vitesse 1 (Van den Brom 10). **Att:** 4,500.
Fortuna Sittard 0, Willem II 0. **Att:** 4,500.
FC Utrecht 1 (Van der Net 20), **FC Twente 1** (De Boer 19). **Att:** 5,500.
De Graafschap 0, Sparta 1 (Dennis de Nooijer 32). **Att:** 6,240.

ITALY Weekend

Bari 1 (Platt 77), **Sampdoria 1** (Vialli 6). **Att:** 45,000.
Cagliari 0, Roma 1 (Feste 80). **Att:** 20,000.
Cremonese 0, Torino 2 (Venturin 70, Scifo 86). **Att:** 14,800.
Fiorentina 1 (Faccenda 27), **Foggia 2** (Petrescu 63, Codispotti 65). **Att:** 34,600.
Genoa 1 (Augilera pen 61), **Ascoli 0**. **Att:** 29,000.
Internazionale 2 (Desideri 48, 70 pen), **Verona 0**. **Att:** 55,000.
Juventus 1 (Casiraghi 14), **AC Milan 1** (Carrera o.g. 90). **Att:** 65,000.
Lazio 1 (Sosa 14), **Atalanta 1** (Cannigia 55). **Att:** 35,000.
Napoli 2 (Zola 20, Careca 40), **Parma 2** (Corradini o.g. 14, Brolin 50). **Att:** 45,000.

PORTUGAL

Salgueiros 2, Farense 1
Boavista 3, Penafiel 0
Gil Vicente 2, Uniao Madeira 1
Vit. Guimaraes 1, Beira-Mar 1
Sp. Lisbon 0, Benfica 0
Estoril 1, Sp. Braga 1
Torriense 6, Famalicao 1
Maritimo 1, FC Porto 0
Pacos Ferreira 3 Chaves 0

SCOTLAND Weekend

Dunfermline 1 (Balfour o.g.45), **Airdrie 2** (Stewart 18, Watson 31). **Att:** 4,515.
Hibernian 2 (McGraw 33, Weir 85), **Falkirk 2** (May 42, Baptie 76). **Att:** 9,001.
Motherwell 0, Aberdeen 1 (Gillhaus 28). **Att:** 6,452.
Rangers 1 (McCoist 42), **Dundee United 1** (Ferguson 59). **Att:** 36,347.
St Johnstone 1 (Wright 12), **Celtic 0**. **Att:** 9,993.
St Mirren 2 (Irvine 12, Charnley 88), **Hearts 3** (Millar 29, McPherson 54, Crabbe 62). **Att:** 5,836.

SPAIN Weekend

Sevilla 2 (Diego 32, Benogoechea 47), **Sp Gijon 1** (Monchu 68). **Att:** 50,000.
Athletic Bilbao 1 (Tabuenca 77), **Real Madrid 4** (Butragueno 4, 36, Hagi 34, Hierro 89). **Att:** 40,000.
Valladolid 1 (Roberto Martinez 6), **Logrones 2** (Polster 2, Herrero 45). **Att:** 14,000.
Cadiz 1 (Quevedo 24), **La Coruna 0**. **Att:** 8,000.
Tenerife 2 (Dertycia 31, Felipe 46), **Albacete 3** (Corbalan 45, 90, Zalazar 61 pen). **Att:** 21,000.
Valencia 1 (Penev 70), **Burgos 1** (Balint 16). **Att:** 35,000.
Osasuna 1 (Cholo 76), **Mallorca 0**. **Att:** 12,000.
Atletico Madrid 3 (Manolo 12, Moya 14, Vizcaino 55), **Espanol 0**. **Att:** 35,000.
Oviedo 2 (Bango 14, Carlos 48), **Real Sociedad 0**. **Att:** 16,223.
Barcelona 3 (Eusebio 12, Bakero 50, Beguiristain 88), **Zaragoza 1** (Higuera 30). **Att:** 70,000.

SWITZERLAND

Lugano 2, St Gallen 1
Neuchatel Xamax 1, Aarau 0
Wettingen 1, FC Luzern 1
Young Boys 1, Sion 0
FC Zurich 1, Servette 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY,SEPT 22

AUSTRIA Midweek

Admira Wacker 2, Kremser 2
Austria Salzburg 2, Vorwarts Steyr 0
FC Tirol 3, Austria Wien 4
Rapid Wien 3, Vienna 0
Stahl Linz 2, Sturm Graz 1
St Polten 0, DSV Alpine Donawitz 0

Weekend

Vienna 2, Kremser SC 1
Austria Wien 5, Stahl Linz 0
Vorwarts Steyr 1, Rapid Wien 1
DSV Alpine Donawitz 0, FC Tirol 0
Sturm Graz 0, Austria Salzburg 2
St Polten 1, Admira Wacker 1

BELGIUM Weekend

Cercle Brugge 3 (Weber 17, 47, Affo o.g.25), **Charleroi 0**. **Att:** 3,000.
Anderlecht 2 (Oliveira 12, Degryse 80), **Lokeren 1** (Samson 5). **Att:** 15,500.
Lierse 3 (Pauwels 16, Van Kerckhoven 65, Rekdale 89), **Club Brugge 2** (Cossey 39, Booy 42 pen). **Att:** 9,000.
Standard 1 (Lashaf 38), **Molenbeek 1** (Vanden Boys 84). **Att:** 12,000.
Gent 3 (Van der Linden 22, 26, Vandenbergh 82), **Waregem 0**. **Att:** 6,500.
Antwerp 2 (Lehnhoff 43, Van Rethy 45), **Beveren**

Action from the 1-1 draw between Juventus and Milan.

CONTINUED OVER

JEAN-PIERRE PAPIN

MAN OF THE WORLD

THERE IS something about the letter "P" when French football is the topic.

In the late 1950s and early 1960s Roger Piantoni, inside left of Reims and the French side placed third in the 1958 World Cup, was one of the finest all-round forwards in Europe.

Some 20 years later and Michel Platini was king of football in both France and Europe. For several years he was probably superior in his overall contribution to Diego Maradona. Platini was a consistent winner throughout his career whereas Maradona had, remarkably, won nothing of value before the 1986 World Cup.

Now, after all those fond memories of Piantoni and Platini, French fans are basking in the reflected glory of Marseille's captain and top scorer, Jean-Pierre Papin.

Papin, like his illustrious predecessors, is more than a footballer. He is a national hero whose fame and character and influence transcend the straight white lines around a football pitch.

At Marseille, at the heart of the multi-million pound football collection being pieced together by president Bernard Tapie, Papin is a figurehead, a spokesman, a leader. A captain on and off the pitch.

Insisting

It was Papin in whom Tapie confided his determination to sign West German World Cup boss Franz Beckenbauer long before the media knew what was happening; it was Papin who led the Marseille players out on strike in protest at the French federation's decision to suspend Tapie for a year as punishment for attacks on referees and other club presidents; it was Papin who backed up the strike threat by insisting he would play abroad if he could not play for Marseille.

Right through his career — and Papin, born on November 5, 1963, in Boulogne-sur-Mer is still only 28 — the wiry little Frenchman has set his eye on one goal or another. That has been his hallmark ever since Papin's early days. He scored 120 goals in two years with the renowned INF Vichy youth teams and then, on being signed up by second division Valenciennes, earned promotion to the second division side and was their 15-goal leading scorer in 1983-84.

These goals earned him both selection for the French under-21s and a transfer to Belgian club Brugge, who urgently needed a deputy for injured veteran Willy Wellens. Papin's marksmanship took Brugge to the cup, and earned five goals in the UEFA Cup — including a hat-trick against Boavista. He was not, however, settled in Belgium.

Papin says: "The year with Brugge was the longest of my life. At first people there were laughing at me — saying I was too small. But in a funny sort of way that helped me. It made me all the more determined to succeed. That's why I think I could do well in Italy because certainly I do not see myself as finishing my career in France."

Papin signalled his international potential in 1984 when he collected important strikes against East Germany and Yugoslavia in the European under-21 championship. Indeed, Papin scored twice in the 7-0 thrashing of the Slavs in November 1985 which qualified France for the quarter-finals.

Senior recognition from national manager Henri Michel could not long be delayed. Papin duly made his senior France debut in a 0-0 draw against Northern Ireland and he went on to become a key figure in the French side which finished third in the 1986 World Cup.

Papin scored one of the French goals in the 4-2 defeat of Belgium in that third place play-off. Then, at the insistence of his wife who wanted to finish her studies, Papin returned to France.

Monaco appeared to have him signed and sealed but were then pipped on the post by Marseille. Now he is club captain, considered France's No 1 footballer and now top of *WORLD SOCCER'S* world.

In 1988-89 Papin was not only the league's 22-goal top scorer but grabbed a hat-trick in Marseille's cup final defeat of Monaco. He was top scorer again in 1990, with 30 goals (including three hat-tricks) and completed the treble with 23 more.

Jean-Pierre Papin has been Mr France for several years. Now he is also Mr World.

PEOPLE

THE MEN WHO MUST MAKE THEIR MUSCLE COUNT

ALAN ROTHENBERG

President, United States Soccer Federation, Chairman, World Cup USA 1994.

ROTHENBERG, a late entry in the USSF's 1990 presidential election, swept to an astounding victory over then President Werner Fricker. Though not widely known in US soccer circles, Rothenberg was seen as the man to bring modernisation and direction to a drifting organisation.

He was also seen as FIFA's candidate, the man they encouraged to run in order to oust Fricker.

Although Fricker had engineered the awarding of the World Cup to the US in 1988, his stubborn attitudes and his insistence on using — particularly in the marketing field — people of whom FIFA did not approve, incurred opposition.

Involved

Rothenberg is a partner in the Los Angeles law firm of Latham & Watkins and was President of the State Bar of California in 1989-90.

In the late 1960s, he was involved in soccer as general manager of Los Angeles Wolves.

In the 1970s he was chairman/owner of Los Angeles Aztecs, who brought Johan Cruyff to the United States.

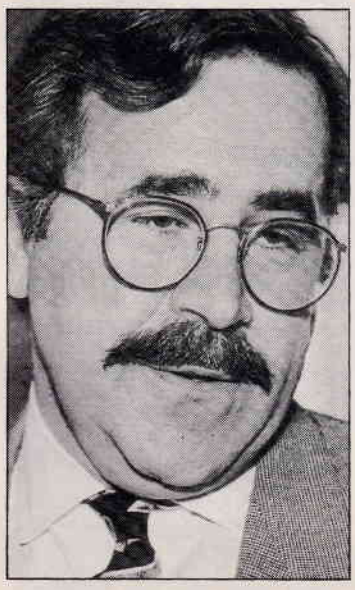
During the 1984 Olympics, Rothenberg served as Commissioner of Soccer.

Other sports involvement has included a 15-year stint as a member of the National Basketball Association's Board of Governors.

He is 52, a graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of arts degree (1960) and a law degree (1963), and lives in Los Angeles with his wife Georgina, an educator and sculptor. They have three sons, Brad (27), Richard (24), and Danny (21).

HANK STEINBRECHER

Executive Director/Secretary General, United States Soccer Federation.



AFTER only two months in office Rothenberg moved Steinbrecher into the USSF, the key appointment in the modernisation process.

Steinbrecher, born in Brooklyn, New York, played soccer in local youth and semi-pro leagues. He graduated from Davis & Elkins College, West Virginia, with a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in Education.

Steinbrecher holds the USSF's "A" Coaching licence and from 1980-1984, he was head soccer coach at Boston University.

Joined

During the 1984 Olympics he was the venue director for the soccer games played in Boston. In 1985 he joined the Quaker Oats Company as director of sports marketing with special responsibility for the sports beverage Gatorade.

The 44-year-old Steinbrecher and his wife, Ruth Anne, have two sons, Chad and Corey.

CHARLES "CHUCK" CALE

Chief Executive Office/Co-Chairman, World Cup USA 1994.

ANOTHER lawyer in Los Angeles, Cale was brought in by Rothenberg to run World Cup 1994 — a reversal of their roles during the 1984 Olympics, when Rothenberg served under Cale, group vice president of sports.

Cale has served since 1985 as a member of the United States Olympic Committee's Administrative Committee, and as a member of the International Relations Committee.

In 1988 he was the assistant "chef de mission" of the Olympic team in Seoul.

The 51-year-old Cale has served as a youth soccer coach in the American Youth Soccer Organisation's Southern California programme.

He was born in St. Louis, graduated from Principia (Illinois) College in 1961, received his law degree from Stanford University in 1964, and a masters degree from the University of California in 1966.

He lives in Brentwood, California, with his wife Jessie and three children.

ORGANISATIONS

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Telephone: 719 578-4678
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1270 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 220, New York NY 10020.
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SCOTT PARKS LeTELLIER

President/Chief Operating Officer, World Cup USA 1994.

LeTELLIER was former president Fricker's choice as the man to run World Cup 94. Fricker's ousting by Rothenberg, left LeTellier's position in doubt, but — now working under Cale — he has proved a invaluable member of the World Cup team, and was a key figure in drawing up the USSF's successful bid to FIFA in 1988.

Graduated

He was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1951, and graduated with a bachelor of science degree from the University of Tennessee and a law degree from Brigham Young University.

In 1981 he took leave of absence from his law career to join the Los Angeles Olympic Games Organising Committee, where his work included staff responsibility for the soccer tournament.

LeTellier has chaired the USSF's Appeals and Professional Leagues Committees, and has coached soccer at the youth level. He and his wife Sherry have four children.

AND FOR COME

their thing. But we'd get home and I'd be reminded of what was or wasn't going on back home.

"I'd spend the next day moping around, making everyone's life a misery. I couldn't get it out of my mind. It spoilt the whole holiday for me."

Woods returned to discover that Goram had signed and the prospect was that he would spend the first weeks of the season — and perhaps a lot longer — in the reserves. He was appalled.

There were rumours, largely unfounded; that the man who had signed Woods for Rangers, Graeme Souness — would come up with an offer to take him to Liverpool. Nothing materialised.

There were other whispers of possible deals. Woods heard that one or two clubs were monitoring the situation, but nothing happened. Then, all of a sudden Sheffield Wednesday manager Trevor Francis made a £1 million bid.

Trialist

Rangers accepted it and the goalkeeper was on the way to his fourth English club and the one, ironically, where he had been rejected as a wide-eyed trialist in 1974.

Woods conceded three goals on the opening day of the season, but his presence has done much to underline the club's impressive return after promotion in 1990-91.

Graham Taylor has settled on Woods as No. 1 — a decision he felt he had to make before speculation about him and Seaman drifted into difficult waters.

"Seaman is an exceptional goalkeeper," says Taylor. "It would have been stupid not to have given both of them a chance to play in internationals before making my choice, I had to be fair to both, and to myself.

"I have decided that Woods just has the edge and that's why he's my choice. He has never let anyone down for his country, his goals against record is extremely impressive. His greatest strength is his calmness."

Through the experience of standing in Shilton's shadow for seven years, Woods takes nothing for granted.

He was thrust into the limelight as an 18-year-old in the 1978 League Cup Final, deputising against Liverpool because Shilton was cup-tied. So Woods played at Wembley before he had made a single League appearance.

Any innocence he may have had was quickly lost in a flurry of telling action. "I look back at myself then and think Ugh! But I can vaguely remember some of the saves I made.

"I left Forest to go to QPR because Shilts was first choice and I felt I needed to be a No 1 in my own right.

"I never really settled at QPR, and only lasted 18 months before Norwich moved in.

"It was a funny old time there at first because we were relegated straight away and there was a chance for me to move back to Forest. Shilts was still there and I thought he'd be there for a long time, but apparently he was just about to move to Derby.

Thought

"Had I known that at the time, I could have gone back to Forest, but I turned the chance down and spent five very contented years at Norwich."

From East Anglia, with its rural niceness and even landscape, to Glasgow with its tenement blocks and slick city life....the move came right out of the blue.

"I remember going home one day and asking my wife Sarah how she fancied living in Scotland. She thought I was crackers. But we moved and after three months I wondered if I'd done the right thing. Sarah told me to stick at it, and it came right."

Woods won four Scottish championship medals at Ibrox, understanding exactly what it meant to be an integral part of a club which is life and blood to so many people.

"Everyone knew what you were doing, where you'd been, who you'd been with," he said. "You had to watch every move you made."

Now, back in England, he says: "I don't think Peter Shilton made the international position his own until he was the same age I am now, so I don't see any reason why I shouldn't go close to emulating his record.

"If I maintain my dedication I'll be around for a few years to come.

"Being your country's No. 1 is a very special feeling, something you want to keep hold of. I've taken a long time to get there, but I'm really just starting out."

Secure . . . Woods of England gathers the ball from John Aldridge of the Republic of Ireland.

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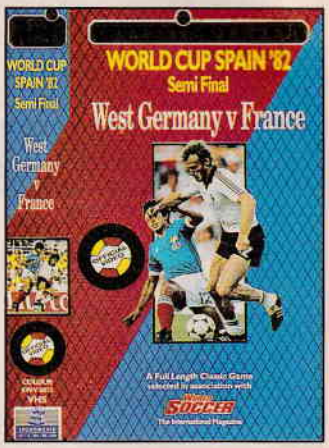

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WORLD SOCCER VIDEO COMPETITION

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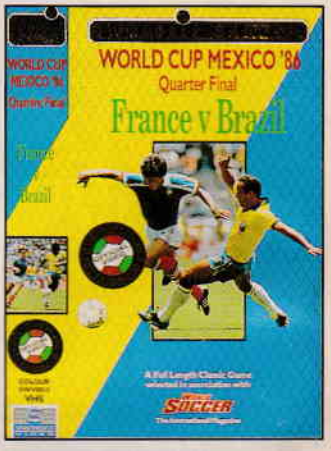

QUESTIONS

1. What was the 90 minutes score of the West Germany v France World Cup Semi-Final in 1982?

2. The France v Brazil Quarter-Final in 1986 was decided on a penalty-shoot out...France winning 4-3. But that could have been avoided if Careca, Zico or Junior had scored for Brazil from the penalty-spot in the 73rd minute?

3. Who scored England's goal in the 1-1 Semi-Final draw against West Germany in 1990?

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BY TIM **MANSEL**

"I wanted to carry on as a professional abroad, if I could," he says. "But nobody showed 100 per cent interest, so I thought I may as well come home to Gothenburg and start from square one."

The club have changed a bit since Johnny Ekstrom was last there in 1986. Most of the old faces have gone, as well as many of the new ones.

Ekstrom arrived when the latest Swedish hopeful, Kennet Andersson, was leaving for a professional career with Mechelen in Belgium. And while Ekstrom refuses to regard himself as Andersson's replacement — "Our styles are very different" — he will clearly be judged by the number of goals he scores.

So what does the future hold for the man the Swedes like to call Johnny Brattom, which translates as something like Johnny-in-a-hurry?

The priority is clearly to establish himself at Gothenburg. But he's keen to prove that he's not over the hill, either as a professional or as an international footballer.

"I'm pleased to be home again," he says. "But I'd like to have another go abroad. I'd really like to go to England. English football would suit my style."

Ekstrom has not played for Sweden since he scored their only goal in the defeat by Costa Rica in the World Cup last year. Despite his experience at international level, 34 appearances and 11 goals, he will find it tough to force himself into the reckoning for a place in the European Championship squad.

Martin Dahlin, Tomas Brolin and Kennet Andersson have all scored regularly in internationals this year, and Djurgarden's Mikael Martinsson appears to be next in the queue.

In a game between Djurgarden and Gothenburg in October, Martinsson looked much the sharper of the two.

Ekstrom says he has not heard a word from Tommy Svensson, Sweden's manager.

Pleased

But Svensson is probably pleased he's home, especially as both Kennet Andersoon and Dahlin (Borussia Moenchengladbach) have both recently gone abroad.

"Esktrom was very good when he left Sweden, but he hasn't done much abroad," says Svensson in an interview earlier this year. "He would have done better to have stayed in Sweden."

Gothenburg is where Ekstrom will stay at least until June. The club will release him then if he gets an offer from a professional outfit.

We'll see.

Battling . . . Ekstrom in action for Sweden in a friendly against the UAE.

FRANK **RIJKAARD**

BY SIMON **KUPER**

The reasons for Rijkaard's return

Ireland-Holland match, said: "Great player! He can do everything. In England he would be worth gold. We hardly have any defenders like him. Either they're defensively weak or they can't attack.

"A player who can attack and defend brilliantly hardly exists in England."

One senses that Bilardo and Charlton had never heard of Rijkaard before the tournament. Although Dutch players have long considered him to be as good as Van Basten and Gullit, Rijkaard has never been as well known as his two colleagues with Milan.

The vote for the best player of the European Championships is a case in point. Rijkaard suffers for his lack of charisma. He fell out with his manager, Johan Cruyff, at Ajax in 1987, because Cruyff complained that he was a great player who failed to behave like one.

In Cruyff's view, the greats have to take public responsibility for their team. Rijkaard prefers anonymity.

Denied

After 1988, Rijkaard was the only Dutchman who consistently played well. He even did well in the World Cup, but his spitting overshadowed his play.

After the match against West Germany some Dutch players suggested that Voller had shouted racist abuse at Rijkaard, but Rijkaard decently denied such claims.

"The main reason why I spat is that he deliberately got me a yellow card, which would have cost me the next match," he said. "He comes running at me and while I made a sliding tackle he kicks the ball past me.

"I see that and I pull my leg back but even so he deliberately runs into me and drops theatrically although I don't touch him at all. And then he stands up and gives me an annoyed push, as if to say 'Why did you do that?' Very unpleasant."

Some months later, he apologised to Voller.

Rijkaard's return restores 1988's famous axis of Koeman-Rijkaard-Gullit-Van Basten — but Koeman and Gullit probably will never again be the men they were then. This will give Rijkaard a higher status within the team.

Never again will he play for Holland as a man-marker in the service of other stars. For the next few years he should be Holland's closest thing to a playmaker.

Brilliant . . . Rijkaard demonstrates his power in the air against England.

TheBrian GLANVILLE COLUMN

Voller . . . took the half chance offered to him by Maguire's wayward back pass in Nurnberg.

Leave reasonably well alone!

HOW heartily I agree with *WORLD SOCCER'S* Editor! The back pass to the goalkeeper should be left severely alone. It's another cheap gimmick out of that factory of cheap gimmickry at FIFA House in Zurich, a factory run by people who have had the cheek to ruin the World Cup then blame it on the rules. What they don't, in their blinkered ignorance, realise is that back passes are one of the most fertile sources of goals. And if you doubt that, look at a few of the things that have happened this season.

Above all that extraordinary goal headed by Rudi Voller for Germany against Wales, in Nurnberg, courtesy of Gavin Maguire. A strange choice for right back, given that it was a position he never filled, and that he'd scarcely played all season. The poor fellow, out on the right flank and on seemingly his wrong foot, decided, under no pressure and for no good reason, to curl the ball back to his keeper, Neville Southall.

It never reached him. What it turned into was a perfect cross for Rudi Voller, who gratefully headed it into the net, turning the game for Germany.

Sailed

Or, a few weeks later, turn to Budapest, Honved against Sampdoria in the Champions' Cup. The Italian Champions went down, 2-1. Both the Hungarian goals came from foolish, careless back passes from two international defenders who surely should have known better; Vierchowod of Italy and Cerezo of Brazil. But that's the thing about it. Defenders, and others, just don't think at times. They play the ball back without looking and pay for it.

Sometimes, the back pass goes straight in. As it did in the case of Lee Dixon, this season, at Highbury. Early in a match, he decided he would lob the ball back to his keeper, David Seaman. Again, there was no real danger or pressure. So Dixon duly lobbed, Seaman wasn't expecting it, and the ball sailed tantalisingly over his head, to finish in the net.

One could multiply such examples endlessly. There have been some famous, not to say infamous, own goals scored by well known defenders. The former Manchester City and Oldham Athletic left back, little Willie Donachie, a mobile and incisive player, was wearing the Scottish shirt in a midweek international at Hampden, in the old British Championship, one evening. Far out of the box, he pivoted, knocked the ball back; and to his horror, saw it glide past his stranded goalkeeper, and into the net.

Another devastatingly careless goal came last season in a match at Cambridge, when United were at home to Sheffield Wednesday. An insouciant Wednesday defender turned and stroked the ball, notionally at least, back to his keeper. It never got there. Instead, a Cambridge forward, lurking with intent rather than any real hope, suddenly found the ball at his feet. Bang! It was in the net.

Yes, I know what FIFA in their folly are trying to do. They want to speed the game up, they want to kill the dreary process of time wasting by teams who endlessly pass the ball back to the goalkeeper while he with no indecent haste fritters the seconds away before giving it a boot upfield.

Yet the new rule FIFA introduced this season, where the goalkeeper once he has let the ball drop, cannot pick it up again, plus the restrictions on time wasting by a keeper, should surely take care of the problem if referees do their job as they should.

The trouble has been, in the past, that when they have done, it has sometimes met with violent resentment on the part of those who are punished.

As at Nottingham Forest last season, when Neville Southall — here he is, again — was penalised for alleged time wasting. That meant a free kick in the penalty box, from which Forest scored and won the League Cup game. Everton were so furious, it is said, that they expressed their wrath in the dressing room.

On the basis of the Laws of the Game, they had no case at all, but I suppose you can understand their fury, on the basis of refereeing inconsistency. Which, by the way, has reached new heights, or depths, this season, with the implementation of the most controversial new rule of all, in its second incarnation.

That is to say, the professional foul rule now takes in keepers who do such heinous things as handling outside the box.

FIFA, of course, don't want entirely to ban the pass back, they simply want it to be cut down by a rule which forces any keeper who receives such a pass to have to kick the ball rather than pick it up and boot it.

Jeff Powell in the *Daily Mail* thinks this a consummation devoutly to be wished, since it would cut down those great towering kicks down the middle to a giant centre forward which sum up the limited ideas of too many teams. I respectfully take his point, but think it too high a price to pay.

Then, as others have pointed out already, there is the question of definition. What constitutes a pass back? Or, put it another way if you please, when is a pass back not a pass back? When, for example, is an alleged pass back the result of a last ditch, saving tackle, when the ball is taken from the feet of an advancing forward and played back in the general direction of the keeper?

Or what of a case in which a defender slices, and the ball flies back to the goalie? These cases and their like will surely put still more pressure on referees who already carry an immense new burden in interpreting the professional foul rule.

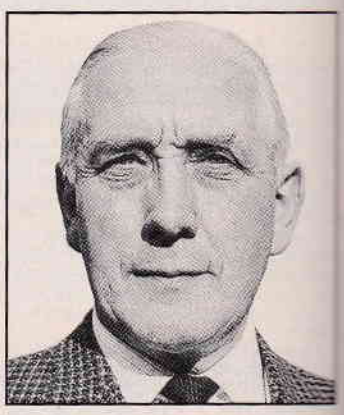
Implemented

If it ain't broke, they used to say in America, don't mend it. That would be my advice to the meddlers of FIFA, still living in a state of busy idleness, still strangely unaware of the subtleties of soccer.

I know, my good friends, that they implemented the rule in the Under 17 World Cup tournament in Tuscany last summer, but what kind of a half baked test was that, quite apart from the fact that it, and an offside law change, placed a ridiculous onus on the teams, the coaches and such very young players.

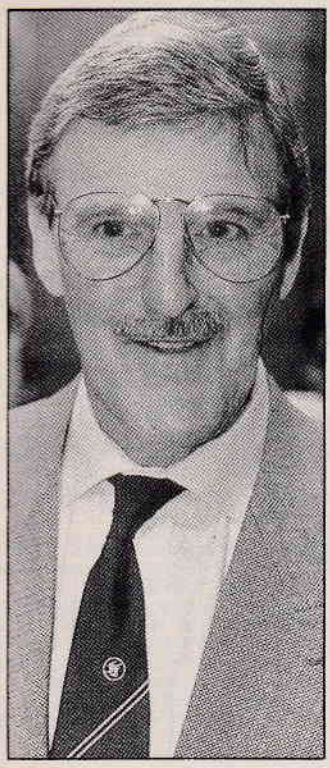
Back passing should remain what it is; a potential bore, but also a rich source of human error, ludicrous goals and the perpetual punishment of caution. Someone tell Blatter and Havelange, will they?

ROWE'S MEMORY LANE



WHEN Spurs scored that marvellous 11 pass goal against Porto at White Hart Lane, the final pass so expertly supplied to Gary Lineker (Toze's glorious solo when Porto scored was in its way as good), those who believe in real football exulted, and some of us thought back forty years to the time of push and run.

"One touch" was the way the Spurs manager, Peter Shreeves, described the build up to the goal, a build up whose excellence even Gary Lineker



In praise of Hill

SOME heavy history books have been out lately, not to mention Eamon Dunphy's patchy but intermittently fascinating biography of Matt Busby, A STRANGE KIND OF GLORY (Heinemann). Then there is Bryon Butler's HISTORY OF THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (Queen Anne Press) and John Harding's HISTORY OF THE PFA, once known as the Players' Union.

Such books are particulary interesting to me when I have been involved with the events and therefore have some idea of what was happening. It is now a kind of open season on Jimmy Hill, especially as the Chairman of the besieged Fulham club, whose affairs have now become so infinitely prolix that a poor simpleton like myself can scarcely hope to follow them. But as one who worked in close sympathy with Hill during his splendid campaign to break the iniquitous maximum wage in 1960-61, I can say only that all our gloriously and sometimes grotesquely overpaid footballers today can thank their lucky stars he existed, otherwise they might still be taking the tube, and celebrating with a couple of beers on a Saturday night. Hill fought a magnificently dogged and resourceful battle against the forces of reaction, the battle which poor old Jimmy Guthrie, once the skipper of Portsmouth's winning 1939 FA Cup team (and a waxwork in consequence at Mme Tussaud's throughout the last war) never got near to winning.

Abetted

Famous tribunes of the people, in the popular Press, were amazingly reluctant to back Hill and his just cause. Alan Hardaker, needless to say, pulling the strings of the pathetic old marionette Joe Richards, the FL Chairman, fought bitterly to the last ditch, but the maximum wage went at last.

Both Dunphy, whose book about Busby is strangely ambivalent, purporting to show us a saint and showing us instead a wily survivor, and Harding, Billy Meredith's biographer, tell us at length about the great Welsh winger's struggles for a fair deal for footballers, abetted by another fine Manchester United player, Charlie Roberts, the attacking centre-half who inspired Vittorio Pozzo's winning Italian World Cup teams of the 1930s with the advice he gave him as a student in England. Would the players have won without Hill? Eventually, perhaps, but it would have been much longer and harder.

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Lineker and Durie celebrate Spurs' first goal against Porto, the culmination of a fine 11-pass move.

himself didn't appreciate till he saw it on tv. In those remote days, we used to call it "push an run", and it was a tactic which in successive seasons won the title in the 1st and 2nd divisions, in 1950 and 1951.

The progenitor of that revolutionary style, built on the one-two, was Arthur Rowe, a Londoner of engaging wit who had captained the club at centre-half in the 1930s. In 1939, Rowe spent summer time coaching in Budapest, and was fascinated by some of the Hungarian methods.

He had the right players to exploit his tactics. Eddie Baily was a quick, clever little Cockney inside-left, with an admirable partner in the left winger Les Medley. Watching lop sided Spurs this season, how often I have wondered what they would give for a left sided player of Medley's skill and pace, as they either leave the left flank virtually free, or use a player on his wrong foot, such as Paul Walsh. Yes, I know how much faster the game is and all that, but Medley wasn't slow, either in thought or movement.

English football being, alas, what it is, Rowe's success was resented rather than applauded by certain of the directors, particulary two, now no longer with us, called Heryet and Hornsby. Heryet was a little man from St Albans, Hornsby used to wear the kind of broad brimmed brown slouch hat of slightly sinister appearance which you don't see now. As Rowe tried to impose his exciting methods, he would be horrified to read in the programme notes — written, I believe, by Mr Heryet, that it was good to see the players giving the ball plenty of air.

Rowe took nothing for granted and was a great exploder of cliches. "And kicks a good length ball" was one of them. What is a good length ball, he pertinently demanded. A good length ball can be a short one of just a few yards, if it goes to the right man, and if it doesn't it can be a bad length ball indeed. But Rowe, despite his sometimes abrasive, challenging humour, was at heart a sensitive man, and he was badly hurt. It ended alas in a nervous breakdown.

Proved

He found his way back coaching the now defunct — and what a loss to football — Oxford and Cambridge club, Pegasus. The bright undergraduates well understood his football language, and in time he would also work at Crystal Palace and Orient. Push and run as a strategy did not disappear; rather did it tend to form part of the pattern, a weapon in the armoury, of various teams. It is of course the total antithesis to the ghastly long ball game, perpetrated by so many of our clubs, not to mention the FA's coaching department.

It was so heartening, at White Hart Lane, to see that British players could still bring off such a movement at such enthralling speed. And Toze's 80 yard run through a stricken Spurs defence showed that the art of the soloist is far from dead, either. Something proved again when Greece scored a fine individualist's goal at home to Finland.

Such feats of sheer skill should be encouraged, but it will be hard to do as long as we have too many of our coaches and managers taking the easy way out, overflying the midfield, and, in the current euphemism, playing the percentages.

letters

We welcome your letters on any topic concerning international football. Write to: Editor's Letters, World Soccer, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. We regret that Information Desk queries (no long lists please) can be dealt with only through this column.

Radio activity

SIR — TO continue the discussion on radio commentary — after Mr M Wilson (October).
I was network football producer for *BBC Radio Sport* 1981 — 1983, a period when the three best practicioners of the art of radio football commentary, Bryon Butler, George Hamilton and Peter Jones, were on the staff at the same time.
Even then arguments raged. Should the second-half commentary be uninterrupted apart from the occasional "read" of scores elsewhere? Should the commentary game be left for a quick report from another ground when a goal had been scored?
Generally, it was regarded that goals had to be in the "vital" category before the actual commentary was left, and then only at the discretion of the programme producer.
At one stage, as an experiment, only one commentator was sent to a game and the match producer was detailed to interject with scores from elsewhere. It did not make the score service any quicker or the commentary more interesting, and was soon abandoned.
When commentators are as adept at their craft as Messrs Butler, Hamilton and Jones obviously were, then there is no need to introduce the pacier Italian style, flashing match reports in quick succession with no commentary as such. (In any case the agreements between the BBC, Independent Radio and the League and FA preclude this, limiting reports in duration and frequency).
Unfortunately it is rare these days to hear a commentator with the gifts of the illustrious trio. Few have the knowledge and vocabulary to act as the listeners' eyes — zooming and focusing on aspects of the game close up, then at a distance.
The proliferation of "screechers" on radio, castigated by Peter Jones in one memorable broadcast shortly before he died, is to be regretted.
Perhaps the Italian style would be welcome if the alternative is "The Screech". At least then simple information would be forthcoming — who scored and when — rather than the often misguided opinions of commentators with limited knowledge, seemingly determined to clog the airwaves with meaningless twaddle.
Earlier this season, for instance, one commentator expressed his surprise that substitutes had to "warm up" on a sunny day, then a few minutes later felt sufficiently qualified to opine on why a goal had been disallowed!
Should the Italian system be adopted in the future, let us hope that the reporters are up to the task.
The idea currently being mooted that celebrity reporters (Nigel Kennedy at Villa, Roy Hattersley at Sheffield Wednesday etc) would provide greater interest and entertainment value should, I feel, be resisted by the genuine football enthusiast.

— A.J. SMITH, St David's, Pembrokeshire.

Problems problems

SIR — MALTESE soccer, apparently cannot proceed without any hiccup of some sort.
The return of John Buttigieg from a two year — not so rosy — spell with Brentford was followed by a dispute by two clubs.
His former club Sliema declared that the player was only eligible to play for them when he returned to Malta. Buttigieg did not agree on the conditions laid down by Sliema for his new contract, and joined Floriana.
Sliema protested to the FA, who upheld their protest but turned down the one made by St. Andrews, who lost in the opening game of the season against Floriana, stating that the player could not take the field since he was not acknowledged by the FA as a Floriana player.
The matter was "politely" solved when Floriana appealed and were granted possession of Buttigieg.
The conditions on which Buttigieg is registered makes him the only professional player owned by a club on the island and the MFA, who employ all the other international players on a professional basis, are not willing to pay Buttigieg every time he is called to train with the national squad, and so John is refusing to play for Malta.

— STEFAN VELLA, Marfravell, Bluebell Str, Fgura, Malta.

Far from ideal

SIR — I READ with great interest (October) concerning the choice of the USA as venue for the 1994 World Cup.
This subject has intrigued me over the past two years, and thanks to fabulous coverage through your magazine, I have gained quite a good understanding of the situation. Consequently, I can sympathise with both the "for" and "against" parties.
I agree that America is not thought of as a footballing nation. Interest in Cameroon, Morocco, etc. is far greater.
Cameroon, however, are in no fit state to even contemplate hosting such an event. They have no adequate stadia, no money is generated within the game and the organisation and support needed to host such a tournament simply isn't available.
The Americans have some fantastic stadia, have a proven track record for preparing large-scale spectacles, and despite much early pessimism the authorities and major cities are beginning to take notice, as are advertising companies.
Even the national team is developing under Bora Milutinovic. In an ideal world, Cameroon would be hosting the next World Cup, but that just isn't a feasible proposition at the present moment.
Looking at the situation optimistically, it is fair to say that involvement in US soccer will rocket as 1994 approaches. The coverage that the World Cup receives will surely enhance the status and appeal of the game among youngsters — a vital factor if soccer is to rank up there with baseball, basketball and their own version of "The Beautiful Game".

— JAMES EASTHAM (aged 15), Preston, Lancashire.

Wild at heart

SIR — WITH reference to the article on Malta by Tony Moyse (November) I must give the true verdicts on the case.
"There were many things to admire about the organisation of the sport in Malta, but the disciplinary position is not one of them. It cannot be right for an innocent club to suffer relegation as a result of procedural activities rather than performances on the field."
Indeed it is not right and this did not in fact happen in Malta for Birkirkara were later reinstated in the Premier Division by a unanimous FA decision, increasing the club participants in the Premier Division from nine to ten.
Birkirkara are doing fine this season and recently snatched a point in a goalless draw with Floriana. Naxxar WERE affected by the punishments. They were relegated straight from the Premier Division to Division Two, having "obtained" relegation to Division One on the field of play.
As for the Maltese enthusiasm and love of the game, it is all true. I quote from the autobiography of Stan and Mila Matthews who both passed some good years in their "Idle Hours" at Marsaxlokk, Malta.
"You might expect Italians and Englishmen to be the most excited people around when it comes to a match between Italy and England.
You might expect that — but you would be wrong. The people who get the most excited are the Maltese. They go wild. The reason is simple.
Every Maltese is a soccer fanatic, but half the population are fervent admirers of the Italian game, while the other half are passionately pro-English. So when the two countries play each other, Malta comes to a standstill."
Those who happened to be in our island in such occasions or during a World or Nations' Cup know well that Mila Matthews is right.

—TONIO FARRUGIA, St Paul's Bay, Malta.

FIFA are right

SIR — WATCHING international competitions, it seems clear that FIFA are right in examining the laws of the game to increase the likelihood of success at the World Cup in 1994.
The current game is contaminated by cynicism, time-wasting, and a lack of goals and excitement.
However artificial tinkering with the size of goals and other synthetic ideas are not correct.
Professional fouls: It seems absurd and confusing to send players off when they have denied a clear scoring opportunity through foul play. The law must be changed to award a penalty to the opposing team and a yellow card to the offending player.
Free-kick offences: Free-kicks should be immediately awarded if a player wastes time, hinders the return of the ball into play, does not retreat 10 yards, feigns injury, shows ungentlemanly behaviour, restarts play from the wrong place, or argues with referee or linesman, even if the ball is already dead. Further ten yards: If a free-kick has been awarded to the opposition, and a player offends as above, then the free-kick is advanced a further ten yards towards the offending team's goal. If this takes the free-kick into the penalty area, then it is a penalty.
These measures would ensure a more exciting spectacle by putting an end to cynical and unlawful defending, and ensuring more time with the ball in play, therefore providing more goals, and fewer drawn matches being decided by penalties.

— ROGER WILSON, London, W6 9RN.

Age-old problem

SIR — YOUR report on the under-17 World Championship said that the Spanish coach accused Ghana of using over-age players. Sad.
As a Ghanaian I cannot be expected to agree with the accusations, but I should defend my country. The Ghanaians were so mature in their play that they looked more than their age.
Football in Ghana is part of the culture. The game is well developed at youth level and we have youth leagues in every community.
By the time these kids are 16 they have been playing competitive football for the best part of 10 years. At this stage self-expression is allowed a free way. If some of the boys wore hard faces, it's more a result of socio-economic factors, for as early as age eight they've had to help sell bread to help pay their school fees.
We normally are the first to boot out any player we think over age, for the simple reason that we have the boys and the skill to win even an under-five competition without resorting to cheating!

— BABA KASSIM, GHA, Accra, Ghana.

Stop whining

SIR — EVERY month there seems to be a new attack on America's right to stage the 1994 World Cup. Why don't people accept the fact that a selection by FIFA has been made and no amount of whining is likely to change that decision?
So football is not the most popular sport in America, then neither is swimming, or cycling, or diving. Yet plenty of people turned out to watch these events during the 1984 Olympics.
The World Cup would be successful anywhere, the only criterion being an adequate stage on which to set it.
Unfortunately there are only six or seven countries possessing that stage, and I'm afraid (Mr Al-Zubaidy, October) that Cameroon, Morocco and Egypt are not among them.
We ought to congratulate FIFA for their decision to allow the United States to host the next World Cup.
Hopefully we'll all look back on a much more exciting World Cup than the one we're currently reflecting upon.

- JOHN BLOM, Sydney, Australia

No guns please

SIR — I SINCERELY hope that FIFA will prohibit the display of guns as part of any ceremony or pre-game programme associated with World Cup '94. As you know, Americans are unable to have a parade without them.

— AIDAN F. KILBRIDE, Maryland, United States.

Kids' stuff

SIR — AS AN American follower of the game, it was interesting to read the letter from Mr. Al-Zubaidy (October) in which he argued that the US does not deserve to host the World Cup. He cited as "fact" a survey showing that only one in ten Americans could name a member of the US World Cup squad. As one who desires the success of soccer in the US I only wish this was true.
That ten per cent of Americans should take even some interest in professional soccer is beyond even the wildest dreams and hopes of the Federation and World Cup organisers. It is highly unlikely that even one out of 100 Americans actually know there is a US national soccer team, let alone know anything about the players or international competition.
I say this with deep sadness and frustration but Europeans who have never been to the US have no sense of how utterly inconsequential and irrelevant soccer is here. Nor do they understand the depth of the hostility and opposition to soccer at the highest, most powerful levels in the media and sports establishment.
There is a near-total blackout on any news or coverage of soccer on TV and newspapers. So relentless is this blackout that the vast majority of Americans have no idea the World Cup is ever coming here, nor do they have a clear notion of what it is.
The New York Times, the most influential newspaper in the country, ignores soccer except for stories like Heysel, Hillsborough and Maradona's drug arrest. The biggest TV sports channel, *ESPN*, has 24-hour, seven-day sport but not a single soccer match.
None of the big TV networks has any interest in televising the World Cup and foreign visitors will have serious difficulties seeing the matches on TV here.
The Cup bureaucrats certainly want to keep this sad truth hushed up.
I have no doubt that the organisers will fill the stadiums — Americans are easily persuaded to see almost anything — but the atmosphere outside the grounds will be nothing special.
If you are here in 1994 and walk into a bar hoping to watch a match, the local patrons will look at you strangely as they turn on the baseball game or read about the upcoming gridiron season.
To Americans, soccer is what schoolchildren play before moving on to "real" sports.
As a professional sport, soccer simply does not exist in the public mind here: don't believe anyone who tries to claim otherwise.

— PAUL PHILLIPS, New York, USA.

Asia

BY BOB PATEMAN AND PAUL MOON

Shaw's bad luck seems unending

Shaw . . . yet another injury in his first game for Ernest Borel.

THERE seems no end to the bad luck that dogs striker Gary Shaw wherever he goes.

Shaw, desperately keen for a change of fortune, has signed for the Ernest Borel club of Hong Kong, but yet another injury meant that he was unable to complete his first match, on the pre-season tour of China.

He was taken off with a damaged knee, and later had another in the seemingly endless list of operations that have dogged him during a career with Aston Villa, Blackpool (on loan), Klagenfurt in Austria, Shrewsbury Town and Walsall.

Two former Swindon Town players, Steve Berry and Robert Spence, signed for the Instant-Dict club, formerly Double Flower but now under new sponsorship. Spence, however, was not retained at the end of his month's trial.

Ho Kam Kong, the club's manager for the past eight years, also left. South China, who dominated soccer in the Colony last season, have five foreigners on their books. The latest is Chinese international keeper Zhang Weikang.

Darren Hare, once with Gillingham and then at Manchester City, has joined Kui Tan from Canterbury, New Zealand, along with team mate John Widdos.

The signing of Widdos shows how hectic things have become, with Kui Tan rushing him out to Hong Kong and then having to leave him on the bench because the paper work could not be completed in time.

Widdos is a 22-year-old centre-half who had a spell with the Wimbledon youth team but has never appeared in the Football League.

Kui Tan's third imported player is Adrian Needs, once at Swansea City.

The club's attempts to sign Chan Hoi-yin from mainland China proved unsuccessful when he could not get a work permit, and instead they now hope to sign another Guangdong player, Tse Chi-hung.

Sing Tao, who just escaped relegation last year, are another smaller club with big ambitions. Their major signing is former Tottenham Hotspur goalkeeper Peter Guthrie.

DIEGO FOR JAPAN?

Maybe, one day...

ONE Maradona may play for an obscure Japanese club next year...but there is still a chance that the more famous Maradona will go there as well, one day.

Hugo Maradona, his career becoming a catalogue of disasters, has signed for PJM Futures, as revealed in *WORLD SOCCER* last month.

And the club — still not a member of the embryo Japanese professional league — have been sounding out brother Diego for well over a year. At present he is still doing nothing back in Buenos Aries, but we never know...

Getting one bearer of the celebrated name is looked upon in Japan as a coup for PJM. Getting Diego as well would be seen as a source of massive increases in gate receipts and other money-spinning activities.

Failed

PJM can afford to think big because they are a subsidiary of a hugely successful American organisation, Success Motivation International, based in Waco, Texas.

If some of the company's methods sound more wacky than Waco, there is no denying their success. Maybe they can even get Hugo Maradona sorted out after his string of non-success.

He has failed with five clubs in four years, going from Boca Juniors to Napoli, then to another Italian club, Ascoli, on to Rayo Vallecano in Spain, and so to Austria Vienna.

Now the Japanese are planning to gamble on him. Perhaps the drastic change in lifestyle will work wonders for a player who DOES have talent, when it can be pulled out from the lethargy and put on show.

If PJM, son of Success Motivation International, can't gee him up then nothing can.

MSC'S CENTURY OF SUCCESS

ONE of India's most famous teams, Mohammedan Sporting Club of Calcutta, are celebrating their centenary this year.

Although often overshadowed by the Big Two, East Bengal and Mohun Bagan, MSC have compiled an enviable list of honours, winning the League title 11 times and taking 14 various knockout trophies in their first 99 years.

This season they have won another four invitation tournaments in various parts of the country.

In winning one of them, the Bordolui Trophy, they beat League champions East Bengal — who had taken the title without conceding a goal — by 1-0, Nigerian midfielder Christopher being the marksman.

Another Nigerian, Chibuzer, scored both goals when Mohammedan beat Mohun Bagan 2-1 in the final of the All-India Kalinga Cup, but Mohun Began reversed that score in the final of the Sikkim Gold Cup.

With a number of star performers down the years, and a forward-looking policy, there is every reason to suppose that the celebrated black and white jerseys will continue to gain prominence in future.

Mohammedan Sporting Club was adopted as the title in 1891, four years after a group of youths in Calcutta had founded a club named Jubilee. This became Crescent, then Hamadia, and finally MSC.

The first 40 years contained little success, but in 1934 the club gained a place in the First Division, and for five seasons in succession, 1934-38, they were champions.

Completed

Under the captaincy of Abbas Mirza, MSC completed a double in 1936, when they won the championship and the Indian FA Shield — the first Indian club to do so for 25 years.

This knockout tournament had been dominated by English clubs, civilian as well as military, but MSC beat the all-English Calcutta FC 2-1 in the final.

In 1940 the enthusiastic Muslims did even better with a unique treble.

They won the championship, became the first Indian team to win Delhi's Durand Cup since its inception in 1888, and took the Rovers Cup, a tournament in Bombay that began in 1891 and had never been won by a team from Calcutta.

One of the stars of this period, Jumma Khan, is thought to have been the first Indian to wear boots instead of playing in his bare feet.

Another great favourite was the remarkable Syed Abdus Samad, who began as a teenager and played his last game in the First Division in 1947, when he was in his 52nd year.

Samad, a forward or winger renowned for his ball control, scored both goals when an Indian XI beat a representative European side 2-1 in 1937.

An Englishman visiting India at the time wrote to a newspaper that he had seen "The Indian Stanley Matthews".

Samad later lived in Pakistan, and was chairman of the Sports Council there.

Mohammedan Sporting set a record in 1948 when winning the championship without losing a match. Skipper Bachan was the League's leading scorer that year, with 21 goals.

Abdul Latif was a star of the India team who won the 1951 Asian Games soccer tournament and went to the 1952 Olympics Games in Helsinki. Four years later Abdul Salam helped his country to fourth place in the Melbourne Games.

In 1970 MSC's Sayeed Nayeemuddin captained the Indian squad who finished third in the Asian Games. A clubmate, Altaf Khan, also played in that tournament.

During the 1980s Prasun Banerjee was an outstanding midfielder for club and country. He also played for an Asian XI in two matches against the Brazil of Zico, Falcao, Junior and Cerezo.

The club's present coach, Sabbir Ali, shone during his playing days, topping the IFA League scoring charts in 1979 and 1983. **G C DAS**

Africa

TWO GIANTS CRASH

BY MARK **GLEESON**

THE two favourites for the final of the African Champions' Cup have both been sensationally knocked out at the last quarter-final stage.

Egyptian giants Al Ahly were beaten in a penalty shoot-out by Nakivubo Villa, while Wydad Casablanca had their run ended by fellow north Africans Club Africain of Tunisia.

The two upstart teams have been joined in the semi-finals by last year's beaten finalists, Nkana Red Devils of Zambia, and Nigerians Iwuanyanwu Nationale, in the final four for the third time since 1988.

Al Ahly, hotly tipped to add to their triumph in 1987, looked comfortably placed after a 2-0 win in the first leg at home.

But they have never been good travellers, although they were confident of holding out in Kampala against the Ugandan champions.

Goals from Robert Semakula and Twaha Kivimbi on either side of the break, however, forced a penalty shoot-out at the end of 90 minutes of the second leg (there is never any extra time in two-legged African competitive matches) and Villa took the shoot-out 4-2.

Villa, through to the semi-finals for the first time, now play Iwuanuanywu Nationale from Owerri in Nigeria, who were beaten finalists in 1988.

The Nigerians also needed penalties to scrape through against ASEC Abidjan of Ivory Coast.

Squeezed

A thrilling final 20 minutes of the first leg saw Iwuanyanwu Nationale score three times without reply to go to the Ivorian capital with a healthy lead for the return outing.

Veteran Adboulaye Traore had other ideas and scored twice, with James Bebe adding a third to level the aggregate score before the visitors squeezed a 6-5 win in the penalty decider.

Wydad Casablanca, reinforced by several Senegalese internationals, had convincingly dispatched holders JS Kabylie of Algeria in the previous round, and were many experts' favourites to become the third Moroccan club to take the title.

But they suffered a 2-0 defeat in the first leg against Club Africain, and not even 45,000 spectators at the Mohammed V stadium in Casablanca for the second leg could will their heroes to reduce the deficit until the final minute.

Club Africain, who lost in the final of last year's Cup-Winners' Cup, will be seeking a first win in the Champions' Cup.

They must play Nkana Red Devils, who likewise lost last year in the Champions' Cup on penalties to JS Kabylie.

Zambia and Nigeria are only two countries with representatives left in both the semi-finals of the Champions' Cup and Cup-winners' Cup.

BCC Lions had little trouble against Dynamos of Zimbabwe while Zambia's Power Dynamos had their expected triumph against minnows ASFA Yennega of Burkina Faso, albeit a little casually.

The big shock of the round came with the triumph of Inter Star from tiny Burundi, who beat Arab Contractors 5-4 on penalties.

FINAL OUTCOME LOOKS CLOSE

BOTH Tunisia and Uganda have never produced a winner in the African Champions' Cup — but at least one of them will get that glory later this month.

Club Africain of Tunisia and Ugandan champions Nakivubo Sports Villa will contest the final after scraping through their respective semi-finals.

The Tunisians won on away goals against last year's runners-up, Nkana Red Devils, while Villa beat perennial semi-finalists Iwuanyanwu Nationale of Nigeria by one goal.

Tunisian clubs have played in only eight of the last 26 years of the tournament and before this year had previously reached the quarter-finals only twice.

For Club Africain it is their first appearance in the Champions' Cup, having been beaten in the Cup-winners' Cup final last year.

Their win over Wydad Casablanca of Morocco in the quarter-finals marked the Tunisians as a team to watch this year, as did the scoring prowess of Abdelhak Heidi, Abdel Sellimi and Fawzi Rouissi.

But few expected their emphatic 3-0 win over Red Devils in the first leg of the semi-finals.

A final was almost denied in the second leg on the Zambian Copperbelt, when Devils scored four second-half goals, including a hat-trick from captain Beston Chambeshi, but Rouissi got a late goal to put the Tunisians through.

Nakivubo Villa beat favourites Al Ahly of Egypt in a penalty shoot-out in the last eight.

Reached

In the semi-finals they were up against Iwuanyanwu Nationale of Nigeria, consistently close to winning the tournament, but only able to convert their almost mandatory semi-final place over the years into a cup-winning performance.

Villa gave a shaky performance in the first leg in Kampala, winning 3-2, but a goal by Majidi Musisi in Owerri was enough to secure a 1-1 draw and see them through to their first final.

The last Ugandan club in the final, Simba in 1972, lost 7-4 on aggregate to Hafia Conakry of Guinea.

Villa had only once reached the quarter-finals of the Champions' Cup in four attempts, back in 1983.

Winger Musisi, among the last genuine stars on the continent not snapped up by a European club, will be their potential match-winner, with captain Paul Hasule providing the anchor at the back.

In the Cup-winners' Cup, holders BCC Lions are fancied to retain their crown against Zambia's Power Dynamos.

Lions beat Entente Setif of Algeria 2-1 on aggregate, their winner coming with three minutes of the second leg remaining.

Dynamos ended a gallant run by Inter Star from the tiny and troubled East African nation of Burundi

Dynamos were at home in the first leg of the semi-final and, as most expected, were comfortably on course, leading by two goals from Webson Nyirenda.

Then Saidi gave Inter a lifeline with just three minutes of the match remaining.

Defeat meant the giantkillers needed one goal without reply in the second leg at home to go through, but Nyirenda scored again to give the Zambians a two-goal lead.

In the second half in Bujumbura, Inter came storming back with two goals to level the aggregate score, but 60 seconds later Linos Makwaza made the scoreline 2-2 and put Dynamos through 4-3 on aggregate.

Lions, top heavy with Nigerian internationals, were emphatic winners of the tournament last year and have looked confident this time around, too.

Power Dynamos seem to travel better than they play at home, so the first leg of the final in Nigeria will be the indicator.

Pele is poll tip

THE voting for Africa's Footballer of the Year is being counted, with one journalist from each of the 42 member countries of the Confederation of African Football being invited to put choices on paper.

The poll has been organised since 1970 by Radio France International and their voice of African soccer, Gerard Dreyfus.

Last year's winner, Roger Milla, was an easy choice for the journalists, but it is a lot tougher this time.

Two Ghanaians are the favourites: Abedi Pele of Marseille, who steered his club to a place in the Champions' Cup final and played a handful of matches as his country comfortably qualified for the African Nations Cup final in Senegal next month, and 16-year-old Nii Lamptey Odartey, hero of Ghana's win at the under-17 World Cup in Italy and a bright hope at Anderlecht.

For charisma you can't beat Pele, who turned AC Milan upside down in the quarter-finals, but was unable to prise open the Red Star defence in May.

Lamptey is a symbol of hope for Africa's growing footballing future, and made a sensational debut last January.

The outsiders in the poll include Majidi Musisi, winger with Uganda's Nakivubo Villa, who helped his club to a place in this month's Champions' Cup final; Fawzy Roussi, who did the same for Tunisia's Club Africain and has his country's under-23 side on course for a place in next year's Olympic Games in Barcelona, and Morocco's Abdelsalem Laghrissi, top scorer in the qualifiers for the Nations' Cup.

Ghana's Edward Ansah has been the pick of the 'keepers, while 33-year-old Celestin Mouyabi has helped Congo reach the Nations' Cup final.

Then there are European-based professionals, Henri Balenga (Zaire), Rachidi Yekini, Richard Owubokiri (both Nigeria), Anthony Yeboah (Ghana) and Liberia's George Weah, winner of the poll in 1989 and banging in the goals for French Cup-winners Monaco.

AFRICAN FOOTBALLER OF THE YEAR

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1970	Salif **Keita**	(Mali)
1971	Ibrahim **Sunday**	(Ghana)
1972	Cherif **Souleymane**	(Guinea)
1973	Tshimen **Bwanga**	(Zaire)
1974	Paul **Moukila**	(Congo)
1975	Ahmed **Faras**	(Morocco)
1976	Roger **Milla**	(Cameroon)
1977	Tarak **Dhiab**	(Tunisia)
1978	Abdul **Razak**	(Ghana)
1979	Thomas **N'Kono**	(Cameroon)
1980	Manga **Ouguene**	(Cameroon)
1981	Lakhdar **Belloumi**	(Algeria)
1982	Thomas **N'Kono**	(Cameroon)
1983	Mahmoud **Al Khatib**	(Egypt)
1984	Theophile **Abega**	(Cameroon)
1985	Mohamed **Timoumi**	(Morocco)
1986	Badou **Ezaki**	(Morocco)
1987	Rabah **Madjer**	(Algeria)
1988	Kalusha **Bwalya**	(Zambia)
1989	George **Weah**	(Liberia)
1990	Roger **Milla**	(Cameroon)

Pele (right) . . . the Marseille and Ghana midfielder is among the favourites to win the African Footballer of the Year title.

YANGA AND SIMBA TAKE TITLES

THE newly-crowned 1991 champions of both leagues in Tanzania have a familiar ring.

In the mainland First Division, Young Africans of Dar es Salaam (known as Yanga) carried off their sixth title in 10 years, edging out defending champions Simba in a close finish.

On Zanzibar, Small Simba retained their title with three games still to play, their fifth success in nine years.

Yanga's re-emergence as top dog of Dar's two giants was sweet, in a season when rivalry between the reds and the yellow-greens reached fever pitch.

Simba first captured the mainland title last year, then proceeded to lift the regional trophy — the East and Central African Clubs' Championship, held on home soil earlier this year.

Simba restored national football pride and broke a long series of national failures by defeating Uganda's Sports Villa 3-0.

In the league, Simba's regional breakthrough inspired Yanga to greater heights.

The difference between the sides was Yanga's two 1-0 victories over Simba. Both crucial goals came from "Scud" — the nickname for Yanga's lively striker Saidi Suwedi.

Last season's runners-up, Coastal Union could join the Dar clubs in the Super League play-offs thanks to a suspicious victory in the final match — but the result may not stand.

Five teams were in with a chance on the last day.

Match-fixing on previous occasions had led the authorities to insist all final round matches take place simultaneously across the country.

This time, Railways staked a strong claim with a 4-0 home win and must have thought they were home.

They reckoned without Coastal Union, last season's runners-up.

Scored

Mysteriously, their home clash with already relegated Mecco had to be postponed for 24 hours due, it was claimed, to the non-appearance of tickets for the game and the absence of a referee and linesmen.

By the time the rescheduled match began, Coastal knew they had to win by seven goals to qualify.

They won 9-2....having scored only 23 goals in their previous 29 games.

The Football Association of Tanzania allowed the result to stand, but continuing criticism has now forced them to set up an independent committee to probe allegations of match-fixing.

ALLEN **ARMSTRONG**

FINLAND BY PENTTI HIETANEN

KUUSYSI'S FIFTH TITLE

Muurinien . . . deserved the title.

KUUSYSI LATHTI put behind their earlier weariness to win the Finnish championship for the fifth time.

In their final match Kuusysi defeated HJK Helsinki 2-0, who had blown their title hopes by going down 4-0 at home to MP Mikkeli.

MP gave Kuusysi a good run and finished runners-up after beating OTP Oulu 3-0 at home. But by then the champagne bottles were already being opened in Lahti.

Kuusysi won the title for the first time as recently as 1982. Four of their current players — goalkeeper Ismo Korhonen, defenders Keijo Kousa and Ilkka Remes and midfielder Juha Annunen — were already at the club then.

Coach Antti Muurinen says: "Other Finnish sides may have better individuals, but we certainly have the best team. We had a difficult second half of the season, but my players fought through the hard times and deserved the title."

The surprise of the season, Jaro of Pietarsaari, played fine attacking football splendidly orchestrated from midfield by Aleksei Yeremenko, a former Moscow Spartak player.

The success of Jari Vanhala, who hit 19 goals for Jaro, was a bit embarrassing to HJK. For years Vanhala played right under their noses in the Helsinki area, but he had to move some 300 miles north to prove his worth.

HJK reacted to a disappointing season by changing their coach, replacing Jyrki Nieminen with his former assistant, Jari-Pekka Keurulainen.

ROMANIA

DINAMO SET THE PACE

WITH a third of the championship played Dinamo led Petrolul by three points and Steaua by six.

Craiova's bad start was followed by a return to form but fourth spot is less than expected and cross town rivals Electro are equal on points.

Steaua have much to catch up in the League, but are still up and running in the UEFA Cup following their elimination of Sporting Gijon.

Ironically Steaua now take on Genoa the conquerors of Dinamo.

The national team's 1-0 victory over Scotland briefly revived interest in Euro '92, especially as 29,000 fans turned up to see Hagi's excellent display and penalty winner.

But they failed to win in Sofia — a 1-1 draw not being enough to oust the Scots. Hagi, the hero in Bucharest, missed a vital penalty.

The Johansen brothers celebrate with their B1903 teammates during their remarkable UEFA Cup demolition of German giants Bayern Munich.

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1 (Bogaerts 47). **Att:** 5,000.
Genk 0, Mechelen 1 (Eijkelkamp 82). **Att:** 14,000.
Kortrijk 1 (Edelmann 55), **Ekeren 1** (Snelders 87). **Att:** 3,500.
Aalst 0, FC Liege 2 (Ernes 12, Varga 76). **Att:** 9,000.

ENGLAND Midweek

Crystal Palace 2 (Salako 12, Wright 2), **West Ham United 3** (Thomas 54, Morley 57, Small 77). **Att:** 21,363.
Manchester City 0, Everton 1 (Beardsley 67). **Att:** 27,509.
Sheffield United 1 (Agana 69), **Notts County 3** (Bartlett 75, 77, Rideout 81). **Att:** 19,375.
Chelsea 2 (Jones 22, Townsend 57), **Aston Villa 0**. **Att:** 17,182.
Coventry City 0, Leeds United 0. **Att:**15,488.
Luton Town 0, QPR 1 (Barker 47). **Att:** 9,185.
Norwich City 1 (Fleck 24 pen), **Sheffield Wed 0**. **Att:** 12,503.
Southampton 1 (Cockerill 50), **Wimbledon 0**. **Att:** 11,280.

Weekend

Arsenal 5 (Smith 12, Dixon 16 pen, Groves 25, Rocastle 34, Campbell 67), **Sheffield United 2** (Agana 54, Mendonca 89). **Att:** 30,244.
Aston Villa 3 (Blake 48, Richardson 62, Yorke 63), **Nottingham Forest 1** (Teale o.g. 1). **Att:** 28,506.
Everton 3 (Beardsley 39, 61, 75 pen), **Coventry City 0**. **Att:** 20,542.
Leeds United 1 (Hodge 25), **Liverpool 0**. **Att:** 32,917.
Manchester United 5 (Ince 23, Bruce 63 pen, McClair 77, 80, Hughes 86), **Luton Town 0**. **Att:** 46,491.
Notts County 2 (Rideout 21, Bowen o.g. 72), **Norwich City 2**(Ullathorne 62, Bowen 90 pen). **Att:** 9,488.
Oldham Athletic 2 (Marshall 44, Holden 64), **Crystal Palace 3** (Salako 14, Wright 51, Bright 70). **Att:** 13,391.

FRANCE Weekend

Montpellier 3 (Ziober 12, 89, Guerin 18), **Sochaux 2** (Oudjani 71, Bricon 89). **Att:** 8,500.
Monaco 1 (Weah 64), **Nimes 1** (Maharzi 22). **Att:** 8,000.
Nantes 2 (Bonalair 15, Eydelie 53), **Auxerre 0**. **Att:**17,045.
Paris SG 3 (Kombouare 27, Bravo 31, Perez 53), **Metz 0**. **Att:** 38,000.
Marseille 1 (Papin 66), **Lens 1** (Laigle 24). **Att:** 28,000.
Lille 1 (Brisson 71), **Rennes 1** (Chala 90). **Att:** 8,500.
Le Havre 2 (Tiehi 69 pen, Delaunay 72), **St Etienne 1** (Pagal 67). **Att:** 9,189.
Lyon 1 (Fernandez-Leal 13), **Toulon 1** (L. Rodriguez 30). **Att:** 14,000.
Nancy 1 (Zitelli 26), **Toulouse 1** (Marcico 71). **Att:** 8,586.
Cannes 2 (Asanovic 28, Priou 71), **Caen 0**. **Att:** 4,000.

GERMANY Weekend

Borussia Mg 2 (Kastenmaier 28, Fach 46), **FC Koln 2** (Banach 17, Steinmann 61). **Att:** 29,000.
Karlsruher SC 1 (Schmarow 13), **F. Dusseldorf 5** (Allofs 16, 38, Demandt 63, Schreier 82, Hey 83). **Att:** 18,000.
MSV Duisburg 2 (Lyuty 19, Tonnies 51), **Schalke 04 0**. **Att:** 31,000.
Borussia Dortmund. 2 (Lusch 5, Poschner 19), **Hamburg SV 2** (Furtok 13 pen, 77). **Att:** 44,976.
Wattenscheid 1 (Fink 87), **VfL Bochum 2** (Rzehaczek 72, Hinemann 82 pen). **Att:** 20,000.
Bayern Munich 3 (Labbadia 35, Bender 47, Weber o.g. 55,), **Eintracht Frankfurt 3** (Anderson 36, 83, Yeboah 55). **Att:** 65,000.
FC Nurnberg 2 (Dittwar 58 pen, Eckstein 90), **Stuttgarter Kickers 0**. **Att:** 26,000.
Werder Bremen 1 (Bode 8), **Hansa Rostock 0**. **Att:** 24,938.
Bayer Leverkusen 4 (Fischer 37, Lupescu 54, Kree 66, Schroder 89), **Dynamo Dresden 0**. **Att:** 11,000.
VfB Stuttgart 4 (Dubajic 33, Kastl 43, Buchwald 59, Gaudino 77), **Kaiserslautern 1** (Funkel 15). **Att:** 35,000.

GREECE

Korinthos 1, Panionios 2
Aris Salonica 0, AEK Athens 0
Doxa Drama 2, OFI Crete 0
Ethnikos 0, Panathinaikos 0
Xanthi 2, Panachaiki 0
Athinaikos 0, Olympiakos 3
Serres 0, Heraklis 0
Pierikos 1, PAOK 2
Apollon 1, Larissa 0

HOLLAND Weekend

Roda JC 1 (Trost 3), **RKC 0**. **Att:** 3,500.
SVV/Dordrecht 2 (Van Wattum 42, Barendse 70 pen), **MVV 3** (Joordens 29, Meiner 32, 61). **Att:** 2,000.
VVV v PSV Eindhoven — postponed.
Willem II 1 (Van Geel 8), **FC Volendam 1** (Kromheer 90). **Att:** 6,000.
Vitesse 2 (Van den Brom 50, Heuds 90 pen), **Feyenoord 1** (De Wolf 52). **Att:** 9,169.
FC De Haag 2 (Taian 14, Grunholz 83), **FC Groningen 2** (Olde Riekerink 50, Djurovski 53). **Att:** 4,500.
Ajax 5 (Roy 15, Wouters 44, Winter 55, Bergkamp 71, Vink 81), **De Graafschap 1** (Peters 57). **Att:** 4,500.
FC Twente 3 (Gaasbeek 21, Numan 58, Schmidt 82), **Fortuna Sittard 1** (Boogers 49 pen). **Att:** 4,327.
Sparta 2 (Vurens 29, 51), **FC Utrecht 1** (Van der Weert 89). **Att:** 3,500.

ITALY Weekend

Ascoli 1 (Giordano 53), **Lazio 4** (Doll 13, Sosa 56, 69, Bergodi 85). **Att:** 15,000.
Atalanta 0, Juventus 0. **Att:** 30,000.
Foggia 3 (Ramboudi 37, Codispoti 49, Baiano 82), **Cagliari 1** (Crinti 84). **Att:** 19,200.
AC Milan 1 (Van Basten 87), **Fiorentina 1** (Mamellaro 32). **Att:** 80,000.
Parma 1 (Agostini 52), **Cremonese 1** (Pulga 46 o.g.). **Att:** 18,000.
AS Roma 0, Genoa 0. **Att:** 51,500.
Sampdoria 4 (Mancini 35, Lombardo 57, 87, Vialli 65), **Internazionale 0**. **Att:** 40,000.
Torino 0, Napoli 0. **Att:** 35,000.
Verona 2 (Prytz 18, Loseto o.g. 21), **Bari 1** (Calcaterra 38). **Att:** 21,600.

PORTUGAL

Salgueiros 1, Boavista 1
Penafiel 0, Gil Vicente 0
Uniao Madeira 0, Vit Guimaraes 2
Beira-Mar 1, Sp. Lisbon 0
Benfica 2, Estoril 1
Sp. Braga 2, Torriense 1
FC Porto 2, Pacos Ferreira 2
Farense 2, Chaves 0
Famalicao 1, Maritimo. 1

SCOTLAND Weekend

Aberdeen 1 (Grant 28), **Hibernian 1** (Weir 47). **Att:** 12,000.
Celtic 3 (Miller 43, Galloway 67, Nicholas 87 pen), **Airdrie 1** (Black 17). **Att:** 17,552.
Hearts 1 (McKinlay 69), **Dundee United 1** (Ferguson 37). **Att:** 11,746.
Motherwell 3 (Philliben 4, Dolan 63, Russel 76), **Dunfermline 0**. **Att:** 4,531.
St Johnstone 2 (Treanor 40 pen, Moore 86), **Falkirk 3** (McAllister 5, May 7, Stainrod 41). **Att:** 6,106.
St Mirren 1 (Martin 4), **Rangers 2** (Huistra 11, Nisbet 64). **Att:** 14,448.

SPAIN Weekend

Sp. Gijon 2 (Abelardo 15, Monchu 68), **Barcelona 1** (Laurdup 78). **Att:** 19,000.
Real Madrid 3 (Butragueno 36, 44, Hierro 60), **Sevilla 1** (Conte 62). **Att:** 80,000.
Logrones 0, Athletic Bilbao 1 (Ciganda 61). **Att:** 11,000.
Deportivo 1 (Uralde 6), **Valladolid 0**. **Att:** 12,000.
Albacete 0, Cadiz 1 (Quico 47), **Att:** 12,000.
Burgos 3 (Nariciso 35, Ayucar 54, Juric 86), **Tenerife 1** (Quique 7). **Att:** 11,000.
Mallorca 0, Valencia 1 (Fernando 31). **Att:** 12,000.
Espanol 3 (Wuttke 3, Cuxart 15, Francisco 50), **Osasuna 2** (Urban 70, Aguila 71). **Att:** 26,000.
Real Sociedad 0, Atletico Madrid 2 (Moya 41, Vizcaino 84). **Att:** 12,000.
Zaragoza 3 (Poyet 12, Pardeza 23, 67), **Oviedo 2** (Rivas 42, Berto 62). **Att:** 20,000.

SWITZERLAND

Grasshoppers 3, Aarau 1
Lausanne Sports 1, St Gallen 1
FC Luzern 1, Lugano 0
Sion 0, Neuchatel Xamax 0
Wettingen 1, FC Zurich 1
Young Boys 2, Servette 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY,SEPT 29

AUSTRIA Weekend

Admira Wacker 3, Vienna 2
Rapid Wien 2, Sturm Graz 2
Stahl Linz 2, DSV Alpine Donawitz 0
Kremser SC 0, Vorwarts Steyr 0
Austria S 1, Austria W 0
FC Tirol 4, St Polten 2

BELGIUM Weekend

Ekeren 0, Anderlecht 4 (Nilis 1, 58, Oliveira 19, Bosman 50). **Att:** 7,500.
Charleroi 0, Standard 2 (Cruz 19, Bettagno 62). **Att:** 20,000.
Mechelen 6 (Ingesson 2, Leen 51, Eijkelkamp 52, 74, Emmers 72, Severyns 85), **Cercle Bruges 0**. **Att:** 8,100.
FC Liege 2 (Milosevic 28, Varga 89), **Lierse 3** (Rekdal 43, Segers 55, 85). **Att:** 4,500.
Beveren 3 (Van Vossen 36, Van Ham 77, Soudan 83), **Kortrijk 0**. **Att:** 4,500.
Club Brugge 3 (Booy 11, Dziubinski 66, Staelens 87), **Genk 0**. **Att:** 8,000.
Waregem 2 (Abeels 15, Descamps 34), **Antwerp 1** (Czerniatynski 21). **Att:** 4,500.
Molenbeek 2 (De Roover o.g. 2, Van Veldhoven 51), **Gent 3** (Viscaal 20, Vandenbergh 75, 82). **Att:** 9,000.
Lokeren 1 (Meszaros 46), **Aalst 1** (Zakkas 24). **Att:** 6,000.

ENGLAND Midweek

LEAGUE CUP
Bradford 1, West Ham United 1
Everton 1, Watford 0
Hull 0, QPR 3
Leyton Orient 0, Sheffield Wed 0
Oldham Ath 7, Torquay 1
Port Vale 2, Notts County 1
Scarborough 1, Southampton 3
Scunthorpe 0, Leeds United 0
Wigan 2, Sheffield United 2
Wimbledon 1, Peterborough 2
Charlton Ath 0, Norwich City 2
Chelsea 1, Tranmere Rovers 1
Coventry City 4, Rochdale 0
Grimsby Town 0, Aston Villa 0
Hartlepool 1, Crystal Palace 1
Leicester City 1, Arsenal 1
Liverpool 2, Stoke City 2
Luton Town 2, Birmingham City 2
Manchester City 2, Chester 1
Manchester United 3, Cambridge 0
Nottingham Forest 4, Bolton 0
Swansea City 1, Tottenham 1

Weekend

Chelsea 2 (Wilson 50, Wise 75), **Everton 2** (Ebbrell 31, Beardsley 86). **Att:** 19,038.
Coventry City 1 (Ndlovu 40), **Aston Villa 0**. **Att:** 17,851.
Crystal Palace 2 (Bright 81, Collymore 83), **QPR 2** (Barker 5, Wegerle 58 pen). **Att:** 15,372.
Liverpool 1 (Houghton 17), **Sheffield Wed 1** (Harkes 68). **Att:** 37,071.
Luton Town 1 (Harford 69), **Notts County 1** (Johnson 88). **Att:** 7,629.
Manchester City 1 (White 19), **Oldham Ath 2** (Sharp 55, 64). **Att:** 31,271.
Norwich City 2 (Gordon 58, 74), **Leeds United 2** (Dorigo 62, Speed 72). **Att:** 15,828.
Nottingham Forest 2 (Woan 4, Sheringham 77), **West Ham United 2** (Small 17, 43 pen). **Att:** 25,613.
Sheffield United 0, Wimbledon 0. **Att:** 16,062.
Southampton 0, Arsenal 4 (Rocastle 39, Wright 48, 53, 75). **Att:** 18,050.
Tottenham 1 (Durie 39), **Manchester United 2** (Hughes 21, Robson 86). **Att:** 35,087.

FRANCE Weekend

Caen 1 (Gravelaine 60), **Monaco 0**. **Att:** 8,526.
Sochaux 3 (Vujovic 10, Oudjani 63, Caveglia 70), **Nantes 1** (Pedros 80). **Att:** 4,000.
Nimes 2 (Cisse 54, Maharzi 82). **Lyon 1** (Genesio 88). **Att:** 16,432.
Toulouse 0, Le Havre 0. **Att:** 4,615.
St Etienne 3 (Mege 57, Camara 86, Corroyer 90), **Nancy 0**. **Att:** 10,710.
Toulon 1 (Rodriquez 75 pen), **Lille 2** (Sauvaget 24, Brisson 30). **Att:** 3,000.
Lens 1 (Bocande 41), **Montpellier 1** (Divert 23). **Att:** 19,000.
Metz 1 (Calderaro 50), **Cannes 2** (Priou 38, Asanovic 85). **Att:** 15,383.
Auxerre 1 (Prunier 3), **Marseille 1** (Papin 27). **Att:** 12,500.
Rennes 0, Paris SG 0. **Att:** 9,605.

GERMANY Midweek

CUP
Werder Bremen 4, Dynamo Dresden. 1
Hanover 96 1, Bayer Uerdingen 0
Borussia Mg 2, Fortuna Koln 0
Viktoria K. 1, Stuttgarter. Kickers 2
Freiburger FC 1, VfB Stuttgart 6
Reutlingen 2, Bayer Leverkusen 3
Hamburg SV (A) 0, Karlsruher SC 1
SC08 Bamberg 0, Kaiserslautern 1

Weekend

VfL Bochum 0, Bayer Leverkusen 2 (Herrlich 85, Thom 88). **Att:** 12,500.
Nurnberg 1 (Wuck 80), **Bayern Munich 1** (Wohlfarth 72). **Att:** 52,500.
FC Koln 1 (Moser 87 o.g.), **Wattenscheid 1** (Fink 84). **Att:** 23,000.
Dynamo Dresden 0, MSV Duisburg 0. **Att:** 12,700.
Schalke 04 3 (Sclipper 49, Luginger 68, Borodjuk 82), **Karlsruher SC 1** (Hermann 34). **Att:** 31,300.
F. Dusseldorf 0, Werder Bremen 0. **Att:** 13,000.
Eintracht Frankfurt 3 (Weber 20, Sippel 55, Molider 71), **Borussia Dortmund 0**. **Att:** 29,000.
Hamburg SV 1 (Spori 4), **VfB Stuttgart 1** (Frontzeck 37). **Att:** 26,000.
Kaiserslautern 4 (Funkel 10, Roos 29, Hotic 45, Scherr 57), **Borussia Mg 2** (Max 38, Salou 82). **Att:** 35,000.
Stuttgarter Kickers 1 (Richter 52), **Hansa Rostock 1** (Weichert 13). **Att:** 7,200.

GREECE

Aris Salonica 1, Korinthos 0
Panionios 1, Doxa Drama 3
AEL Athens 3, Ethnikos 0
OFI Crete 1, Xanthi 0
Panathinaikos 5, Athinaikos 0
Panachaiki 5, Serres 0
Olympiakos 3, Pierikos 1
Heraklis 0, Apollon 2
Larissa 0, PAOK 0

HOLLAND Weekend

Roda JC 3 (Arnold 9, Ter Avest 51, Ogechukwu 85), **De Graafschap 2** (Koolhof 48, Kraay 78). **Att:**3,800.
SVV/Dordrecht 3 (Van Wattum 5, Gorre 8, Sion 36), **RKC 2** (Van Hintum 49, Brands 70 pen). **Att:** 1,234.
VVV 1 (Rutten 21 pen), **FC Groningen 2** (Meijer 4, 13). **Att:** 4,500.
Ajax 3 (Van Loen 13 pen, Winter 16, Bergkamp 40), **Fortuna Sittard 1** (Sneekes 63). **Att:** 18,000.
Willem II 1 (Van Gastel 53), **Feyenoord 4** (Damaschin 13, Metgod 38, 64, Taument 79). **Att:** 9,200.
FC Volendam 2 (Steur 30, Clayton 76), **MVV 0**. **Att:** 3,150.
Vitesse 1 (Van Arum 29), **PSV Eindhoven 2** (Kieft 21, Bwalya 53). **Att:** 10,000.
FC Den Haag 0, FC Utrecht 0. **Att:** 10,000.
Sparta 3 (Dennis de Nooijer 7, 47, De Getrouwe 70), **FC Twente 2** (De Boer 3, Mulder 75). **Att:** 3,500.

ITALY Weekend

Cagliari 0, Torino 1 (Scifo 68). **Att:** 20,000.
Cremonese 1 (Dezotti 40 pen), **Atalanta 2** (Stromberg 20, Blanchezzi 47). **Att:** 15,700.
Fiorentina 0, AS Roma 1 (Salsano 35). **Att:** 29,700.

Manchester United's Gary Pallister beats Liverpool's Gary Ablett during the 0-0 draw at Old Trafford.

PLATINI GOES FOR THE DOUBLE

MICHEL PLATINI is aiming for a unique double. No-one has captained and then managed his country to triumph in the European Championship. But Platini was skipper of the victorious French team in 1984 and takes his men to Sweden as manager next June.

Born on June 21, 1955, Platini retired from playing in 1987 having scored a record 41 goals in 72 games for France.

He began with Nancy-Lorraine where his father , Aldo, was on the coaching staff and gained a first taste of the international arena when he helped France reach the 1976 Olympic Games quarter-finals in Montreal.

Inspired

After the 1978 World Cup finals in Argentina, Platini moved to Saint-Etienne. He won the French league with them then transferred to Juventus (ousting Liam Brady) after the 1982 World Cup finals. In those finals in Spain Platini — despite a thigh injury — inspired France to the semi-finals where he was voted Official Man of the Match despite the dramatic defeat by West Germany.

He top-scored with nine goals (including two hat-tricks) in the European Championship triumph of 1984 and was league top scorer in each of his first three seasons in Italy — winning with Juventus the World Club Cup, European Champions', Cup-winners' and Super Cups as well as the Italian league and cup.

He was voted European Footballer of the Year (by *France Football*) for three seasons (a consecutive record) and World Player of the Year (by *WORLD SOCCER*) twice.

After retiring he could not stay away from the game. First he became executive vice-president of Nancy, his original club, then France manager in succession to Henri Michel.

WORLD SOCCER AWARDS 1991

TEAM

BORA'S BOYS ARE GETTING BETTER

THERE is encouraging news for those whose last image of American soccer was the 1990 World Cup team.

They were humiliated by Czechoslovakia, defended grimly against Italy, slugged it out brutally with Austria, and lost all three games.

Now, however, new coach Bora Milutinovic has brought a fresh philosophy and atmosphere. And he has even managed to compile a winning record while doing it.

There have not been massive changes of personnel. The essence of the transformation has been to allow players more freedom, to reduce the strict role-playing that was a feature of the previous coach, Bob Gansler.

The new style is evidently to the players' liking: "The guy makes it fun," says goalkeeper Tony Meola.

"You've got to enjoy what you're doing, and he makes sure you do — and all the while we're learning something new every day."

The US still defend tightly, but the attack is more varied and involves the commitment of more players.

Where there was hesitation to go forward, the team now move on to the attack with considerable confidence.

The basis of the team are still college-trained players — inevitably, given the absence of a professional league. But Milutinovic has brought in several older players — such as Fernando Clavijo, Janusz Michallik and Bruce Savage — to provide a more experienced edge to the play.

The most significant of these is Hugo Perez. For him, this marks a return to the national team, for he was dropped by Gansler, who did not take him to Italy for the World Cup.

Now Perez, from El Salvador, has assumed the crucial role of midfield playmaker. His performances have been so impressive that the USSF recently named him their Male Athlete of the Year.

The team's 1990 record includes wins over Uruguay, Mexico, and Romania (in Bucharest), and draws with two clubs, Milan and Juventus. The record is nine wins, three draws and five losses.

The figures are all the more remarkable because they have been achieved with virtually no help from two of the US' top players, otherwise occupied overseas: Tab Ramos, playing for Figueras in Spain, and John Harkes, with Sheffield Wednesday in England.

Perhaps the most significant of the team's achievements was the winning of the CONCACAF Gold Cup in July — not exhibition games, but hard-fought tournament matches.

Above all, they proved that the team are now a genuine threat to Mexico's previous domination of the region.

Mexico were beaten 2-0 in the Gold Cup, and the following month the US Olympic team, under coach Lothar Osiander, beat the Mexican under-23 team, to win the Pan-American Games soccer title.

Qualified

The US team are still undergoing changes, as Milutinovic begins the daunting process of trying to find out about all the potential players scattered throughout the country.

Putting together the national team is as much a learning process for him as it is for the players.

His most recent team — beaten 2-1 by North Korea in Washington in October — was: Tony Meola, Jan Michallik, Desmond Armstrong, Marceloa Balboa, Fernando Clavijo, Bruce Murray, Hugo Perez, Dominic Kinnear, Brian Quinn, Chris Henderson, Eric Wynalda.

Ramos and Harkes, were unavailable, as were Paul Caligiuri (with Hansa Rostock in Germany), and the former team captain, Peter Vermes (with Ramos at Figueras).

Roy Wegerle of Queen's Park Rangers will soon be in line for a place now that he has qualified for US citizenship.

The United States' players celebrate their CONCACAF Gold Cup victory.

Chris Henderson (left) battles with Milan's Marco Simone during a friendly.

TELLY

EBU GET THE TV OK

FIFA have never made much money out of selling the World Cup television rights in North America.

Network interest has been low.

In 1982, ABC televised the final from Madrid live. In 1986, NBC televised nine games live.

But there was no network interest in 1990, and only a handful of games ended up, live, on cable TV.

The lack of network involvement posed a problem right from the start for World Cup 94.

Arranged

A technical, not a financial problem.

Normally, there is a host broadcaster — usually the host country's national TV network (RAI in Italy), or the largest private chain (Televisa in Mexico). This network bears the cost of producing the international signal — which means a basic, live telecast for each of the 52 games. No US network would do this.

So things have been arranged as follows: the responsibility for producing the international signal has been given, under contract, to the European Broadcasting Union (EBU). They will supply all the equipment, technicians and know-how.

An expensive business, of course — and the EBU will be paid from the money obtained from the sale of the North American TV rights.

Those rights (English language in the US, English and French in Canada) have been handed over by FIFA to USA '94, who are doing the negotiating with the American networks and cable companies.

The aim is to get a network — either ABC or CBS, but not NBC, who are not interested — to put on 11 games live during the five weekends of the tournament. The remaining 41 games would be broadcast live on cable TV.

The money obtained from this deal — expected to be up to $20 million — will be used to finance the deal with EBU, and to set up an International Broadcasting Centre at a yet-to-be-decided location.

SPOTLIGHT ON

JOHNNY EKSTROM

SWEDISH striker Johnny Ekstrom says he has no regrets about the past five up and down years.

Those years started with Ekstrom as the hottest property in Swedish football at 21, leading scorer for 1986 champions IFK Gothenburg, a regular in the national team, and the possessor of a contract to play professionally in Italy.

When the period ended he was grateful to be able to return to Gothenburg, the club he had joined as a seven-year-old, having spent most of the last two seasons either on the bench or playing second-team football in France, and, at the age of 26, with apparently no part to play in Sweden's attempt to win the European Championship next summer.

"There's not much point in regretting things," says Ekstrom. "What's done is done. You've got to look to the future. So I have no regrets."

He regards the two years he spent with little Empoli in the Italian League as the best in his five-year professional career.

"I really enjoyed it there," he says. "Empoli is a little town near Florence with about 80,000 inhabitants, and it was the first time they'd been in the First Division.

"That first season we managed to stay up, and the people were happy to have a club still in the First Division.

Staying up was about the same as Milan winning the League."

Ekstrom's second season in Italy started badly, when Empoli had five points deducted after a bribery scandal. The club never recovered from that handicap and were relegated at the end of the season. Which meant the time had come for Ekstrom to move on.

"A number of clubs got in touch, but in the end I chose Bayern Munich," says Ekstrom.

Bayern expect to win things. Players who don't fit in or coaches who don't produce the goods don't last long.

Under Jupp Heynckes the club won two championships in four years, but that did not save him from the sack early in October.

When Ekstrom arrived, in the summer of 1988, Bayern were rebuilding. Lothar Matthaus and Andreas Brehme had just left for Inter. Stefan Reuter, now with Juventus, and Roland Grahammer had just arrived from Nuremberg, and Olaf Thon had been signed from Schalke to provide the chances from midfield for Ekstrom to put away.

"There were much greater demands made on me, and the competition for places was much stiffer," he says.

He competed for a position up front with Roland Wohlfarth and Jurgen Wegmann. Ekstrom began the season as first choice, and scored on his debut, but, after some unconvincing displays, and a sending-off in a cup game, he lost his place.

On one memorable occasion Heynckes picked all three strikers, in the away leg of a UEFA Cup tie against Inter. Inter had won 2-0 in Munich, so Bayern needed to score at least three to go through.

They made it, on the away goals rule, with Ekstrom setting up one of the goals for Jurgen Wegmann.

"A nice game," he remembers, with a smile.

By the end of the season Bayern were champions, but Ekstrom was surplus to requirements, and says he was glad to move.

Waited

"Perhaps if I'd had the choice I'd have waited until I was a bit older before going to Bayern — 26 or 27 is the right age to join a big club like that," he says.

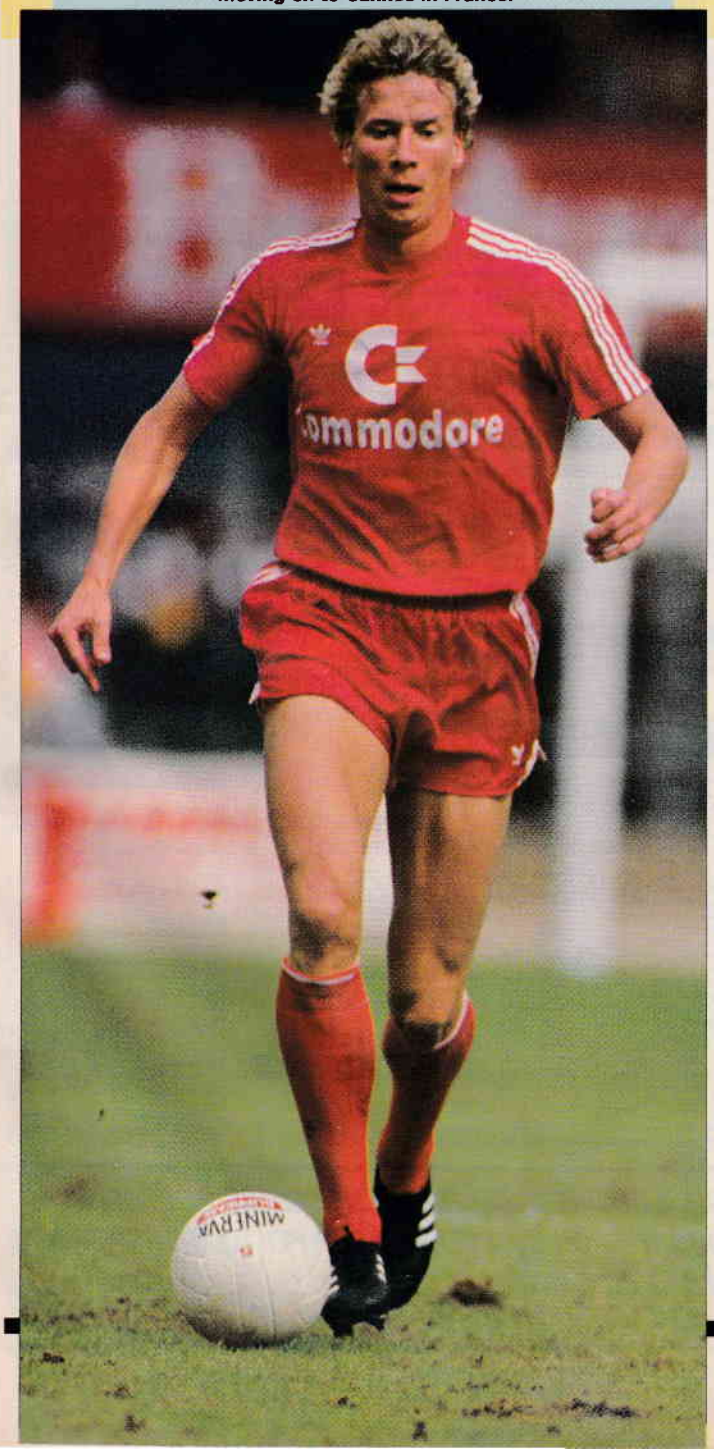
After his year with Bayern, Ekstrom was not quite the desirable property he had been and not many clubs showed interest in him. The only concrete offer came from Cannes, whom he duly joined along with his Bayern club-mate Norbert Nachtweih.

Ekstrom remembers Cannes, the city as beautiful, and Cannes, the football club, as chaotic.

"It was totally disorganised," he says. He spent most of his first season there as a first-team substitute, and much of his second season in the second team, so in the end it was a relief to leave.

Johnny still in a hurry

Brief . . . Ekstrom spent just one year at Bayern Munich before moving on to Cannes in France.



Banished . . . Voller (left) and Rijkaard head for an early bath in Milan.

FRANK RIJKAARD has changed his mind and is playing for Holland again.

Rijkaard, the 29-year-old midfielder, made his return in a friendly against Poland, 15 months after his last appearance in orange, in June 1990, when West Germany knocked Holland out of the World Cup.

Rijkaard spat three times at Rudi Voller that day and was sent off, together with his victim.

Soon after that disaster, Rijkaard announced that he would not play for Holland again. There were several reasons: he was playing in central defence, rather than in his favourite position as central midfielder; Ruud Gullit was running the team but playing dreadfully; and the atmosphere in the Dutch camp upset the sensitive Rijkaard.

He hates the tensions and the soap opera surrounding the game. If it were up to him footballers would get as much publicity as accountants or bricklayers.

He plays football chiefly for his own enjoyment, so when he stopped enjoying playing for Holland he stopped playing.

His return came almost precisely ten years to the day after his debut. Then, at 18, he played in the first half of a 2-1 defeat against Switzerland. At half-time he was replaced by Gullit, another teenage debutant. The Swiss commentator failed to notice the change.

Rijkaard and Gullit have known each other even longer than that. Almost 20 years ago, some of the best football in Europe was being played on an Amsterdam playground, and passing pedestrians must have gaped at the skills of two large black boys, Frank and Ruud.

The two played for the same amateur club, DWS, but then Rijkaard joined Ajax and Gullit went to Haarlem.

Voted

Gullit hit fame before Rijkaard did, and went to Milan a year before him, in 1987. In the European championship of 1988, however, Rijkaard proved himself an international great.

He was voted third best player of the tournament, behind Gullit and Van Basten, but deserved even more. He prompted Argentine coach Carlos Bilardo to say: "This is the best central defender I have seen in the last few years.

"He wins everything in the air. He marks perfectly, reads the game well, has a great long pass and a good shot. And he's fast too. He is the perfect defender, born for today's game."

Jack Charlton, speaking after the

THE KEIR RADNEDGE COMMENTARY

Magazine Sports Writer of the Year

Brussels' Heysel Stadium . . . UEFA must learn the lessons from the disaster in 1985.

Time UEFA faced up to the lesson of Heysel

ON JANUARY 17 the draw for the finals of the European Championship will be made.

Over the following five months UEFA will doubtless issue a stream of "fair play" exortations to players, managers, media and fans.

We will all be told that the referees' decisions must be respected; that the referee is the sole arbiter; that he is more likely right than wrong; that he has ultimate responsibility within his own sphere and must be obeyed with good grace.

What hypocrisy!

For these calls come repeatedly from an organisation, UEFA, which does not accept such constraints itself within the "real" world; an organisation which apparently believes it is above the law.

After the 1985 Heysel disaster, when 39 fans were killed at the European Champions' Cup Final in Brussels, the Belgian authorities went to correct and proper lengths to ensure that all those responsible should be brought to justice.

That included not only the English hooligans, with their prime role in the disaster, but all those who failed in their responsibility to ensure adequate security and safety provisions.

Local civil, sporting and police officials were charged and found guilty; so was Hans Bangerter, then the general secretary of UEFA, and considered as the European federation's responsible executive officer.

UEFA appealed, as they had every right to do. Finally, this autumn, the supreme appeal court in Belgium rejected that appeal.

But did UEFA accept the "referee's" verdict? They did not. Their officials have articulated all sorts of vague threats against Belgian officialdom in general and Belgian soccer in particular.

That's a disgrace.

UEFA should look the facts full in the face. It was UEFA which assigned the 1985 Champions' Cup Final to a structurally inadequate stadium; it was UEFA which laid down what proved to be inadequate guidelines on safety, security and ticket sales; UEFA which proved inadequate in ensuring that even those flawed guidelines were obeyed.

This was UEFA's prestige event. UEFA officials would have preened themselves had it been a success. How dare they disown their responsibility in the wake of those disastrous consequences. What a craven insult to the families of all those who perished in such a horrible way.

I was in the Heysel stadium that night and will not forget what I saw; it appalls me that UEFA should pretend innocence to events on the perimeter of that killing field.

UEFA has warned that the Belgian verdict of responsibility could have "grave consequences" for sports event organisers.

Not as grave as losing husbands, fathers and sons.

Lennart Johansson and Gerd Aigner have attained their positions of president and general secretary of UEFA in the years since Heysel. Let them prove worthy of their responsibilities.

If UEFA refuses to accept the lessons of Heysel then, some day, somewhere, we will live — or die — through it all again.

MORE PRESSURE ON THE SHOOT-OUT

PENALTY shoot-outs continue to be the bete noire of the game. Our recent campaign provoked a decisive response: around 99 per cent of you who wrote to us also believe they are inappropriate as a solution in major competitions such as the World Cup finals.

Further support has come from a survey organised by the Football Supporters Association. Fans, ideally, wanted drawn matches settled by replay. But, where this was not possible, a clear 60 per cent opposed the use of shoot-outs.

The most popular alternative was the one we propounded: play to the first goal.

Other points from the FSA survey which the law-meddlers should consider:

- retain the present offside law (89 per cent);
- scrap offside at free kicks (51 per cent);
- encourage the introduction of professional referees (73 per cent);
- show "injury" play-actors the yellow card.

One vote of confidence for recent developments was recorded. A straight 63 per cent supported the use of the red card on professional fouls while more than 80 per cent backed the extension of the red card punishment to deliberate handball.

The conservative approach to law-fiddling was supported by Scotland coach Andy Roxburgh on Sky Sports' Footballers Football Show. Another "doubting Thomas" is Alfio Basile, manager of South American champions Argentina.

He says: "I saw the changes at the World Under-17s and I didn't like them. They made play worse. Narrowing offside down to the extended goal area enlarged the 'real' field of play and meant the players had to run much more when they didn't have the necessary stamina.

"Then, when it came to defending they couldn't pass back to the goalkeeper so they kicked the ball out of play because they did not dare risk trying to play themselves out of trouble.

"Changes like these would mean the end of the four-man line and zone defence. I've talked to other coaches. None of the professionals want such changes."

Basile . . . did not like changes.

PUTTING A PRICE ON THE SCREEN

HOW MUCH will the new English domestic television contract be worth? Come to that, when will representatives of the FA, the Premier League clubs and the TV channels sit down together?

An initial meeting was postponed but the issue won't wait. For one thing, the FA need to start generating some income. So far all their work on behalf of the Premier League Blueprint has involved expenditure — a lot of it on that High Court clash with the fading Football League.

ITV may not have it all their own way this time. The new deal could involve a three-way split between ITV, BBC and BSkyB. One reason is FA interest in spreading their product exposure as widely as possible. Many insiders now believe the Football League lost valuable national credibility when it disappeared from BBC screens under the current contract with ITV.

Depend

But would ITV accept an accommodation with BSkyB — since both depend on the same advertising revenue sources?

How much will the new deal be worth? Talk varies from £30million-a-season rising towards perhaps £50million if FA Cup and England matches are thrown in. Just to give you a clue: the new German deal, coming into force next season to cover their top two divisions, is worth £217million. The current rate in Italy is £40million-a- season.

By contrast, ITV's current Football League deal adds up to £13million-a-year with the BBC and BSkyB paying £30million over five years for the rights to FA Cup and home internationals.

Millions of reasons for TV and football to sit down together as soon as possible.

Scholar's legacy

IRVING SCHOLAR'S reign at White Hart Lane ended in tears. But not even his opponents could deny his passionate loyalty and commitment to Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.

Not all his ideas were as ill-conceived as many of those band-wagon-jumping critics now claim.

For example, it is thanks to Scholar that Tottenham are the only major club in England with their own press and PR set-up.

Match programmes, club newspapers and media contacts and arrangements all fall within its orbit.

With the Premier League around the corner, it's high time other clubs followed Spurs' lead, for their own sake. Bumbling commissionaires and untutored stewards project the wrong image. Soccer has no divine right to a place on the back pages, rugby's World Cup proved that.

Premier League directors, wake up to tomorrow's world!

BALTIC BLISS

BALTIC STATES NEED A HELPING HAND

FULL marks to FIFA! This may sound a little unusual in these pages. But just as we are among the first to criticise Havelange and Co when they blunder, it's only fair that we pay tribute when they're on the ball.

In the October issue we pointed out that FIFA had a moral responsibility — even though the entry deadline had passed — to bring the Baltic states within the world game in time to take part in the next World Cup qualifiers.

FIFA's executive committee, responding to the fact that Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia never left FIFA of their own free will, will take advantage of their New York get-together to grant them provisional membership of the world body.

That will bring them into the draw for the World Cup qualifiers for USA '94 just in the nick of time.

Porto . . . lost 15,000 fans, by bringing forward their Cup-Winners' Cup tie with Spurs.

When rights are wrong

THE INFLUENCE of television within the game is now enormous. And not always for the good of the game.

FIFA secretary Sepp Blatter recently laid into companies who buy TV rights to matches out of sheer speculatory greed — or to persuade clubs to sell for the same reason.

The Porto v Tottenham Cup-winners' Cup-tie was a case in point. Porto were persuaded to move the kick-off forward from 11pm to 8pm, believing they would make £130,000 on live transmission in the UK.

What Porto did not check was whether BBC or ITV had programming slots available. They did not. At the last minute Porto settled for a £40,000 highlights package. But the early start cost them an estimated 15,000 fall in attendance.

Porto won't be caught that way again but no doubt other clubs will be.

It's not only the clubs who suffer from rights muddles, so do the armchair fans.

Did you know that Brazilian supporters saw only Brazil's matches from the Copa America in Chile last summer? Not a glimpse of the rest, unlike millions of European viewers.

That's because TV Globo bought up the rights to the Copa America merely to block a smaller domestic rival, TV Bandeirantes. Globo then refused to show any of the rest. And they accuse the English of being parochial!

Otherwise engaged

BRITISH and Irish journalists who accompanied Northern Ireland to Denmark had a nasty scare when they checked telephones on arrival at Odense: the Danish telephone engineers had installed lines but no phones.

Danish journalists generally carry their own phones with them and plug in themselves. Their British brethren — like most of the European press — expect to find handsets provided.

Outcome: Danish officials ransacking every office in the Odense stadium for phones minutes ahead of the kick- off!

Pele's revolution

PELE believes he has the answer to the general fall in attendances. The solution, says Brazil's 1958 and 1970 World Cup inspiration, is easy. Also, it would improve the "family" balance of football crowds and, consequently, help reduce hooliganism levels.

Pele's proposal? Admit women and children free to all matches. Of course, the critics will say it's impractical. But what's wrong with a little idealism now and again?

Sorting out the life of Bryan

BET Bryan Robson wishes he were starting out now. The most battle-scarred footballer in England would surely be fascinated to know that down the road from Old Trafford — in Liverpool, that is — four top sports scientists are running a polytechnic course in science and football. Part of the course will centre on avoiding injury. If only Captain Marvel had been born 20 years later!

Happy birthday, Germany

CONFUSION rages among statisticians about when the old East and West Germany amalgamated. The answer is Wednesday, November 21, 1990. So, a belated many happy returns.

A special meeting in Leipzig of the two federations saw the incorporation of the old DFV into the DFB — the original German federation which had then governed post-war football in the Federal Republic.

The last East German international was thus the 2-0 victory over Belgium in Brussels on September 12, 1990 in which Matthias Sammer scored both goals.

The reunited German federation had just issued formal statistics. It boasts 5,245,535 registered players in 26,162 clubs, organising 138,992 teams. Largest of the regional federations within the DFB is Bavaria, with 4,450 clubs, 1,110,045 players and 23,065 teams.

LOTS OF TALENT ABROAD

WHAT sort of standards can we expect as the fragmenting Soviet republics attain independence within both the political and sporting spheres? In the case of the Ukraine, independence would be no problem.

Consider this list of exiled footballers from which any Ukraine national team manager could choose:

Belanov (Braunschweig), **Demianenko** (Magdeburg), **Yaremchuk** (RW Essen), **Liuty** (Duisburg) in Germany; **Cherednik** (Southampton), **Kanchelskis** (Manchester United) in England; **Chokh** (Linz ASK) in Austria; **Oleg Kuznetsov, Mikhailichenko** (Rangers), **Baltacha** (St Johnstone) in Scotland; **Zavarov** (Nancy), **Son** (Ajaccio) in France; **Litovchenko, Protasov** (Olympiakos) in Greece; **Rats** (Ferencvaros) in Hungary; **Chanov** (Maccabi Haifa) in Israel; **Goshkoderia, Yurchenko** (Stal Wola) in Poland; **Yuran** (Benfica) in Portugal; **Andreyev** (Vaxjo) and **Yevtushenko** (AIK) in Sweden; **Dobrovolski** (Servette) in Switzerland; and **Vishnievski** (Sariyer) in Turkey.

Exile . . . Nancy's Sasha Zavarov.

SELLING UP IN TURIN

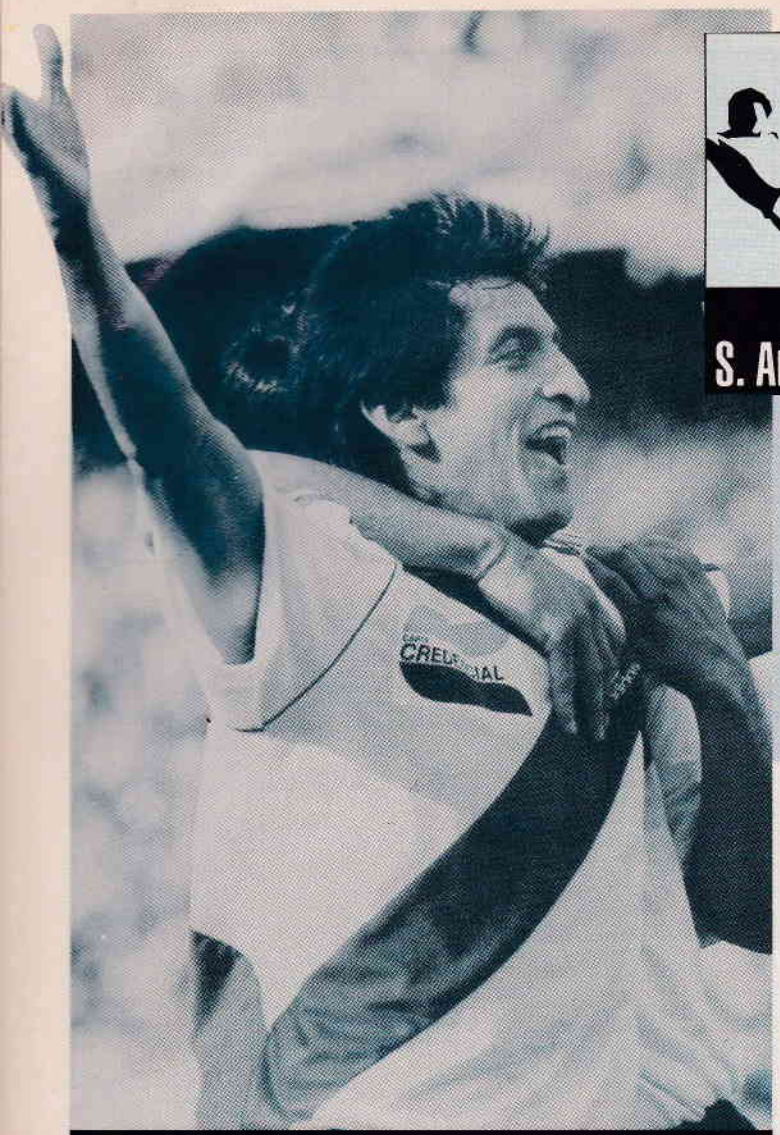
PSST . . . wanna buy a stadium?

THE magnificent Stadio Delle Alpi in Turin is up for sale less than two years after being opened for the 1990 World Cup. Ownership of the stadium is vested in its builders, Acqua Marcia of Rome, who benefited from a hefty government grant and own stadium rights until the year 2200.

Acqua Marcia want the Turin city council to take a major shareholding in a new stadium company. The council, still arguing with the builders over the original construction costs, have not leaped at the proposal.

Neither has either of the clubs who use the Delle Alpi, Juventus and Torino. Why waste money buying into a stadium which would be financially bereft without their rental?

Magnificent . . . Turin's Stadio Delle Alpi.



Diaz . . . leading scorer with seven goals for unbeaten River Plate.

S. America

RIVER PLATE

BY ERIC WEIL

RIVER PLATE equalled their club record for the best start to the season when they beat Deportivo Espanol 2-1 to earn their eighth consecutive victory.

Ramon Diaz returned from Monaco, hit both goals to make his total seven and put him the top of the scoring table.

River Plate have made a few other changes this season, with coach Daniel Passarella admitting having learnt from last season's mistakes.

The 1932 team also started the season with eight wins.

The overall record start is held by San Lorenzo's 1935 and 1941 teams, with 11 wins.

River Plate's last three games have been won only by the odd goal, with strain having its effect.

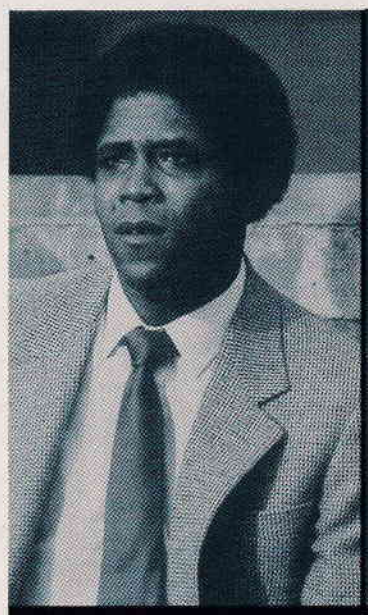
The team have been playing regular midweek games for the last month in the Super Cup (for Libertadores Cup winners) in which they had reached the semi-finals at press time.

Such a fine start to the season would ordinarily give a club a good advantage — vital in a short 19-game tournament as the national championship is being played in two separate rounds with the two winners then facing each other for the title — but not this time.

Cordoba's Talleres, struggling in recent seasons, have been keeping up the chase and are the only other unbeaten team, with two points lost.

Obtained

They are still in danger of relegation, which is based on average points obtained over three seasons, and are not in a healthy financial state, but they have plenty of grit. Recently they drew 1-1 with San Lorenzo in spite of having only eight men on the field.



Maturana . . . offered national job.

Garcia . . . out, despite good results.

COACHES AT THE CROSSROADS

AS the second half of the regular season (Torneo Finalizacion) has been nearing a climax, so there have been more coaching casualties. Both professional clubs in Colombia seem destined for new management.

Santa Fe dismissed Hector Cespedes in mid October after one particularly painful 4-0 defeat at Pereira and a series of less than inspirational performances.

Despite only one home defeat all season, Santa Fe slipped from top of the table in June to the middle.

The club also had a change of ownership recently and the end of a 21-month tenure by Cespedes was not unexpected.

The new man in the dugout is Jorge Luis Pinto, recently with Cali, and Santa Fe's coach in 1986.

Across town, changes appear imminent at Millonarios.

Eduardo Retat has been coach since January but after a recent 1-1 draw with Junior Barranquilla in Bogota he needed police protection from disgruntled fans hurling missiles.

Like Santa Fe, Millonarios have been difficult to beat at home but the spark seems missing from the side.

Offered

Retat looks unlikely to return for 1992 unless Millonarios turn into title contenders by the end of the season.

Another job up for grabs is that of Colombian national coach. The job has been offered to none other than Francisco Maturana, now coaching Valladolid in Spain.

Maturana held the post from May 1987 to June 1990, and has been offered the position up until 1994.

Should he accept, then he would have to split his time between Spain and Colombia, leading to delegation of authority.

This could entail someone like Hernan Dario Gomez, the coach of Atletico Nacional, running the Colombian squad for Olympic qualifying in early 1992.

Colombia's coach in 1991, Luis "Chiqui" Garcia, had decent results on the field, but lots of difficulties off it.

Junior Barranquilla top the overall standings, as well as being the leading scorers.

Several younger players such as midfielder Javier Ferreira (a youth international from Paraquay), Ivan Rene Valenciano and Victor Pacheco have been in fine form.

Valenciano, 19, is the country's leading marksman with 23 goals, and was capped at the Copa America in Chile last summer.

Pacheco, just 17, has been the talk of Colombian football over the past three months. He is tiny but has terrific pace.

Experienced

In reserve, Junior have the experienced winger Adriano Samaniego on hand to play up front.

He has had knee problems, but hit the headlines earlier in the year when the shot himself in the foot, literally, while with Olimpia of Paraguay before an important Libertadores Cup match.

He has yet to complete a full game, but when the going gets really tough at the end of the season it's likely to be a different story.

KEITH SMITH

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EQUAL RECORD

Boca Juniors, much changed after winning the second round last season, are third, four points from the top, but they have hardly put up a good performance this season.

One of their newcomers, veteran Paraguayan international striker Roberto Cabanas, scored three goals in one of his early matches and immediately became the darling of the fans, but has not kept it up.

Fortunately midfielder Diego Latorre has prompted Boca to move up by winning their last three games. Latorre was bought by Fiorentina, but his slump around the time of the South American Championship prompted the Italians to loan him back to Boca.

Racing Club dumped coach Roberto Perfumo, their former international defender, when his feud with Uruguayan midfielder Ruben Paz drove the player away, and the change has not improved failing fortunes.

Osvaldo Sosa took over as coach and Paz returned without showing the form that made him Racing's key man last season. They are still without a win.

Racing Club won their last title in 1966, under Juan Jose Pizzuti.

Since 1969, when he left, they have had no less than 43 coaches, including their former player and current national team coach, Alfio Basile, three times — he took them back into the first division in 1985 — and Pizutti again twice.

Retired

Their neighbours, Independiente, are not doing so well either under their new coach, Ricardo Bochini, who was their key playmaker until he retired from playing last season.

Middle-of-the-table Independiente lack punch and a leader, which is a problem common to many Argentine teams.

Bochini, who regularly joins in for practice matches, may yet become a player-coach if things don't improve.

PERU

Petrov starts well

ALIANZA LIMA are traditionally the club for the dark-skinned population, but their leading striker now is a fair-skinned Bulgarian.

He is Jordan Alexandrov Petrov, 26, who socred four goals in his first three games for the club after playing for a time in Central America.

Petrov's potential was discovered by the Yugsolav coach, Simo Vilic, who arrived only a few weeks earlier. He had coached Union Huaral in Peru last year.

The clash between the two Lima giants — their 232nd official meeting — ended in a 1-0 win for Universitario, who jointly top the Metropolitan division with Defensor Lima in the second of Peru's two seasonal championships.

Engaged

The top four in this division play a final round with the winners of four other regional divisions, and the winners of this final round go into next year's Libertadores Cup with Sporting Cristal, who won the first championship. Unless Sporting Cristal win again the two champions will play off for the national title.

Deportivo Municipal, another old Lima club, changed coaches for the third time in 25 days when they engaged Juan Hohberg to replace Jose Amaral, who had taken over from Ramon Quiroga.

Amaral said after a couple of matches that the players were too poor to gain success, and he did not want to lose prestige. Municipal are eighth of 12 clubs in the division.

The relevation so far in this second championship is newly-promoted Hijos de Yugimaguas, who were challenging for the top until a short time ago.

Chilean coach Miguel Arrue Padilla has a Chilean PT coach — stamina is the team's strong point — and three Chilean players in his team.

URUGUAY

BLANCO QUITS

NACIONAL CHANGE COACH, BUT STILL FALTER

NACIONAL changed coaches again when Juan Carlos Blanco resigned under pressure.

He was replaced with another former player, Raul Moller, a vet by profession, who heard of his engagement while in Argentina, where he was attending a coaching course given by former Argentine national team coach Carlos Bilardo.

But Nacional continued to falter and lost their lead in the First Division, being joined by Central Espanol with eight games to go.

Nacional's Panamanian striker, Julio Dely Valdez, continues to top the scorers, however, with 11 goals, followed by Brazilian Paulinho of Penarol with nine and Alejandro Larea (Central Espanol) with eight.

The championship had been threatened with suspension after several referees had been attacked, but officials finally continued when clubs agreed to tighten security measures and loss of points when fans create disturbances.

River Plate, relegated last season, won promotion again led by veteran Juan Ramon Carrasco, with 15 goals.

NOT MUCH OF A PARTY

EVERYONE went home happy from the match held in honour of the 75th anniversary of the South American Football Confederation — but there weren't many people at the party.

Argentina retained their unbeaten record since new coach Alfio Basile took over, with a 2-1 win over a Rest of America team at the giant River Plate stadium in Buenos Aires.

Goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea was the only Argentine playing abroad who was given permission to return for the match, and only 6,000 tickets were sold.

The match cost 260,000 dollars to stage and the organisers — a commercial promotions firm — lost money.

They had tried to get permission for Diego Maradona to play, but as the player is banned by FIFA this was out.

One of the reasons for the low gate was that the Argentine fan, rather saturated with soccer at the moment, does not go for this kind of exhibition match, especially if there are not many household names.

One man spoke out of turn at the 75th anniversary. Jesus Pallares, president of the Paraguyan League, accused Paraguay's forwards of selling their World Cup qualification to Colombia when they lost their final qualifying group match 3-1 to Ecuador in 1989.

Replied

He said that Arnaldo Cesar Coelho, the Brazilian referee, had told him unofficially that Robert Cabanas tried to get himself sent off from the start, apart from hardly touching the ball.

The other players in that forward line were Gustavo Neffa (now with Italy's Cremonese) and Alfredo Mendoza, who plays for Deportivo Mandiyu in Argentina.

Cabanas, now with Argentina's Boca Juniors, replied: "Pallares is shameless, and takes the opportunity to say these things just to feel important and get more power. It's strange that after three years he suddenly talks about this match.

"He says the forwards didn't want to score goals, but we scored one. By the same thinking more suspicion should fall on the defence, which let three goals through."

Pallares tried to wriggle out with the age-hold remedy: the press had misinterpreted him. "I only said it was strange that our forwards made fouls near the opposing goal instead of trying to score," he said...which didn't appease the players.

Goycochea . . . the only foreign-based player allowed to return for the 75th anniversary match.

COACH SACKED AFTER CUP WIN

AMERICA of Mexico City fired their coach Carlos Miloc, after a brawl in a vital match.

The club won the 1990 version of the Inter-American Cup — played between the Libertadores Cup and CONCACAF champions' tournament winners of that year — by beating Paraguay's Olimpia 2-1 in Mexico after drawing 1-1 in Asuncion in October.

But Miloc ran on the field after 50 minutes of the same leg, to punch Olimpia's Fermin Balbuena. He was then set upon by the other Olimpia players, which resulted in a free-for-all.

Miloc said he went on the field to insult the referee and was in turn insulted by Balbuena. CONCACAF suspended Miloc for a year, and America fired him.

In the Olympic qualifying tournament (CONCACAF zone) Honduras, Canada and the United States won the three third-round groups to qualify for the semi-finals, together with Mexico as the best second-placed team. Mexico beat Surinam 6-0 in the first match in which the new coach, Cesar Menotti, was officially in charge.

In the Mexican First Division, Atlas and Morelia had the best record with eight points after six games.

A poll to pick the best player in each position produced only one foreigner, Chilean midfielder Juan Carlos Vera, who moved from UNAM to Atlas this season.

Diego may move again

DIEGO MARADONA may be running out of countries. He left Italy — where he said he was fed up even before his drug suspension — and now wants to leave his native Argentina.

He says he is tired of constant persecution by the media, and being used as a diversion for political reasons.

The final straw came when front-page stories mentioned his separating from his wife.

Permission

Maradona said he would ask the local court for permission to leave the country and settle elsewhere. He mentioned the United States, and this could be linked to an offer from the San Diego Sockers to play indoor soccer.

Diego's younger brother, Hugo, has been linked with Uruguayan First Division club, Progreso. He has also had an offer to move to Japan.

ROMERITO (left), the former Paraguayan international midfielder who shone for years in Brazilian football, recently signed for his country's Olimpia in time for the Inter-American Cup matches, but did not immediately play.

He was engaged in his other favourite sport, rally driving, in a race for which he had entered before signing for Olimpia.

JORGE ALBERTO TAVERNA, an Argentine striker, sued his former club, Barcelona of Guayaquil, for 56,000 dollars owing in salaries, and in an unusual decision a judge awarded him an embargo on three players' contracts owned by the club.

Technically Taverna could sell the players to another club if no settlement of the debt was arranged.

PEDRO CATALANO broke the Argentine record for successive championship matches with his 203rd straight appearance as goalkeeper for Deportivo Espanol.

The record had been held by defender Rodolfo Smargiasasi of Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata since the early 1940s.

ROBERTO ROJAS, the former Chilean international goalkeeper banned for life by FIFA, wants to become a preacher.

Rojas, who feigned injury from a flare to cause the suspension of a 1989 World Cup qualifier against Brazil, says: "I had everything in life and made a mistake. Now I only have faith left and want to keep others from making mistakes."

IN BRAZIL Fluminense won the first round of the Rio (Guanabara State) Championship for the Guanabara Cup by a point from Flamengo when they held out for a 0-0 draw against America of Rio on the last day.

Fans are reported to have drank 5,000 litres of beer that night.

Flamengo are determined to make it a "Flu-Fla" final by winning the second stage of the tournament, which they topped by a point after three games.

In Brazil's other important state championship, the Sao Paulo League, Sao Paulo FC were running away with the yellow group, from which three clubs qualify for the second round, but the fight was close in the green group, from which the top five qualify.

This included the Sao Paulo classic between Corinthians and Palmeiras, which produced a 2-1 win for the latter and four players expelled.

IN CHILE: Champions Colo Colo reached the top after playing off all their pending games, and with 10 games to go the led Coquimbo Unido by three points.

Ruben Martinez, although not a first-team regular last season, was top scorer with 15 goals.

IN VENEZUELA: Lara and Trujillanos shared the lead on five points after three games.

Universidad de los Andres defend the title and Industriales de Caroni and Salineros de Araya are the two newly-promoted teams.

IN BOLIVIA: Bolivar of La Paz beat San Jose of Oruro 1-0 in the final play-off for the season's first championship to qualify for a place in next year's Libertadores Cup.

Earlier each club had won 1-0 at home, and at press time they were sharing the lead in the season's second championship.

IN ECUADOR: Barcelona, Valdez and Deportivo Quito clinched their places in the four-team final round for the title by making sure of a top-two finish in two four-team quarter-final groups.

The FA had decided to hire foreign referees for the final round, but local referees threatened to go on strike and stop the championship if they did so.

IN COLOMBIA: Seven clubs qualified for the eight-team final round which decides the championship and next year's two Libertadores Cup representatives.

Atletico Junior of Barranquilla continue at the top of the table and the other teams already assured of a top-eight place are Quindio, Bucaramanga, champions America, Millonarios, Independiente Medellin and Nacional Medellin.

COMPETITION WINNERS

THE six winners of our October "South American Cups" competition are:

M Whight of Ipswich, **Diane Greenwood** of London, **M R McGillicuddy** of Bexleyheath, **Natasha Doran** of Birmingham, **Brendan Waters** of Christchurch (NZ) and **Peter Dam Nielsen** of Denmark.

The correct answers were: **1- Gabriel Batistuta, 2- Colo Colo, 3- Ernesto Paulo.**

Neto turns nasty

HE'S BANNED FOR FOUR MONTHS

NOTHING is going right for Corinthians captain Neto these days.

He was relegated to the bench during the Copa America after starting the competition as captain, missed a lucrative transfer to Europe, was clearly off form in the Sao Paulo championship, and now, to cap it all, he has been banned for four months for spitting at a referee who had the audacity to give him the red card.

The latest incident came during a stormy Corinthians-Palmeiras derby. Neto, booked in the fifth minute for dissent, then proceeded to commit a savage foul on Cesar Sampaio.

Referee Jose Aparecida de Oliveira had no option, but to send him off, and Neto spat in the official's face before being escorted from the pitch by his team-mates.

Neto originally denied spitting, and counter-attacked by saying that Aparecida has been "robbing" his team.

Two days later, he changed his tune, said he had made a mistake, phoned Aparecida (who is a bank manager when he is not being abused by spoilt footballers), and apologised.

He was then hauled up before a circus-like tribunal, live on TV, while around 100 supporters protested outside, proclaiming their idol's innocence.

After three tedious hours, the tribunal gave him a four-month ban, which means he will miss the rest of the Sao Paulo championship. Neto, who watched from his home, announced he would go to a spa to keep fit and reflect upon his career.

He will not be short of things to think about.

Neto's career has been dotted with sendings-off, tantrums and bust-ups with managers. He claims that he has solved this problem since getting married last year, but clearly still has some work to do.

Detractors

His virtues on the playing side also are in constant debate. Nobody can question his ability at dead-ball situations, but his detractors says that he has little other use.

Neto's hopes that a European club would take him after the Copa America were dashed, and since then he has struggled to return to his old form. Already in the Sao Paulo championship he had been dropped by manager Cilinho, sent off by Jose Roberto Wright against Bragantino (on this occasion he walked painfully slowly across the pitch in protest) and missed a penalty against Santos. Now this.

Going back to the Corinthians-Palmeiras match, Neto was one of three players sent off — the others were Marcio of Corinthians, for elbowing an opponent who had fouled him, and Toninho of Palmeiras for another vicious foul two minutes after Neto.

The saddest thing about this match was that, after insulting the paying public with 90 minutes of fouls and fighting but precious little football, the players then proceeded to blame the referee, while the Corinthians directors insinuated that there was a plot among the Sao Paulo Federation to "help" Palmeiras, who won the match 2-1.

But while the players and directors continue to argue, the crowds continue to stay away.

The average attendance at Sao Paulo championship games is a paltry 3,209 (one newspaper claimed this was less than the Venezuelan championship) and the average revenue is £5,678.

The best attendance, ironically, was Palmeiras-Corinthians, with 36,835. The lowest was Mogi Mirim v Ituano — 236.

Guarani continued to lead the green group (that's the one with nearly all the strong teams) on 27 points, one ahead of Corinthians and Palmeiras.

With four rounds of matches to go, the five second-round places looked almost certain to be between Guarani, Palmeiras, Corinthians, Bragantino, Botafogo, and Portuguesa.

Bragantino had recovered from a disastrous early run thanks mainly to striker Silvio, top scorer in the competition with 11 goals in 22 games.

Portuguesa, who signed Nilson and Mauricio from Gremio and Chilean midfielder Jorge Aravena before the competition began, also struggled early on but hit form at the right time.

Santos looked set to miss out once again.

A run of eight matches without a win left them in eighth place on goal difference and, barring a late surge, with little hope of making the final round.

There were stories that the players had lost faith in manager Ramiro Valente, claiming his tactics were too negative.

But the real blame must lie with the crazy sequence of matches the players were forced to undergo.

As a result of being involved in that ridiculous South American "Supercup" Santos found themselves playing three to four games a week.

In the yellow group, from which three teams qualify, Sao Paulo had already guaranteed their place, opening up a ten-point lead over their nearest rivals. The fight for the remaining two places had turned dour, and seven teams still had realistic chances.

There were only two hiccups for Sao Paulo — a 4-1 defeat against Internacional Limeira in the Morumbi stadium (their only loss), and Tele Santana's "sending off" against Sao Bento in Sococaba for complaining to the referee.

You can't help sympathising with Santana, who protested when the referee failed to show a yellow card to a Sao Bento player who committed two violent fouls in quick succession.

In Rio de Janeiro, Botafogo suddenly found themselves without winger Renato Portaluppi, who was offered £120,000 to join Gremio on a three-month loan until the end of the year.

Renato simply packed his bags, waved goodbye to his team-mates and made for Porto Alegre.

Gremio's daring move, however, did not come off.

The team, aiming for their seventh successive Rio Grande do Sul championship title, were ninth in the competition below such mighty clubs as Juventude and Lajeadense and in serious danger of not qualifying for the final round.

They also were knocked out of the Supercup in the first round, by River Plate, in a penalty shoot-out after drawing 3-3 on aggregate.

And guess who missed the vital penalty? Yes, the £120,000 man himself.

All this after Gremio were relegated to the Second Division of the Brazilian championship earlier in the year.

Disastrous

As for Botafogo, they were not doing so badly even without Portaluppi.

The team were leading the second phase of the Rio championship after winning their opening three games 3-1 against Itaperuna, 3-2 against Campo Grande and 1-0 against America of Tres Rios.

Not the most of illustrious of opponents, but the name of the game in Rio is to beat the minor teams, pick up three or four points in the three matches against major teams (Vasco, Fluminense and Flamengo in Botafogo's case) and win the phase.

Botafogo's opponents had slipped against the minnows, which will put them under pressure when the "classicos" come around.

Fluminense, who had duly won the first phase by drawing their last match 0-0 with America of Rio, got off to a disastrous start in the second by losing 2-1 to Goytacaz.

Similarly, Vasco da Gama (Geovani, Bebeto and all) lost their opening match in the second phase 1-0 to Campo Grande on a rain-sodden pitch before recovering to beat America of Rio 3-0.

For those who don't remember, the competition is divided into two phases. The 12 teams play each other once in each and the winners of each phase take part in the play-off along with the team who score the most points over the two phases combined.

Fluminense will take the championship outright if they win the second phase as well as the first, but they also will lose money if they do this, as the play-off stage is by far the most lucrative part of the competition.

Neto (left) . . . sent off and banned for four months for spitting at a referee.

BRIAN **HOMEWOOD**

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT: (REST OF WORLD)

EUROPE

Extra-preliminary matches

11.09.90	Liechtenstein v Austria	0-6
16.10.90	Austria v Liechtenstein	10-0

CONCACAF

2 participants to qualify

Caribbean Zone

1st Round

28.10.90	Puerto Rico v Jamaica	0-3
12.11.90	Jamaica v Puerto Rico	2-0
21.10.90	Haiti v Cuba	1-1
28.10.90	Cuba v Haiti	2-2
28.10.90	Aruba v St Lucia	3-3
11.11.90	Aruba v St Lucia	9-0
29.10.90	Antigua v Barbados	0-0
11.11.90	Barbados v Antigua	5-0
21.10.90	Dutch Antilles v Surinam	0-1
04.11.90	Surinam v Dutch Antilles	0-0

2nd Round

17.02.91	Barbados v Surinam	0-0
10.03.91	Surinam v Barbados	2-1
24.02.91	Trin. & Tobago v Jamaica	1-0
03.03.91	Jamaica v Trin. & Tobago	1-0
10.03.91	St Lucia v Haiti	1-1
24.03.91	Haiti v St Lucia	

Central Zone

17.03.91	Guatemala v Honduras	2-2
04.04.91	Honduras v Guatemala	2-0
17.03.91	Belize v El Salvador	0-2
24.03.91	El Salvador v Belize	3-0
	Panama v Costa Rica*	

*= Costa Rica suspended from all FIFA competitions with age limit. Panama qualified for 3rd round.

Caribbean Zone

3rd Round

Group winners & best runner-up go through

Group A

01.09.91	Surinam v Mexico	1-1
05.09.91	Honduras v Mexico	1-1
11.09.91	Mexico v Honduras	0-1
16.09.91	Mexico v Surinam	6-0
24.09.91	Honduras v Surinam	2-0
06.10.91	Surinam v Honduras	0-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Honduras	4	3	1	0	6	1	7
Mexico	4	1	2	1	8	3	4
Surinam	4	0	1	3	1	11	1

Honduras qualify for final Round.

Group B

05.05.91	Canada v Trin. & Tobago	3-0
12.05.91	El Salvador v Canada	3-1
19.05.91	Trin. & Tobago v Canada	1-3
14.07.91	El Salvador v Trin. & Tobago#	2-0
28.07.91	Trin. & Tobago v El Salvador	2-0
31.08.91	Canada v El Salvador	4-0

#= walkover.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Canada	4	3	0	1	11	4	6
El Salvador	4	2	0	2	5	7	4
Trin. & Tobago	4	1	0	3	3	8	2

Canada qualify for final Round.

Group C

23.06.91	United States v Haiti	8-0
14.07.91	Panama v United States	1-1
20.07.91	United States v Panama	7-1
26.08.91	Haiti v United States	0-2
21.09.91	Panama v Haiti	2-2
30.11.91	Haiti v Panama	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
United States	4	3	1	0	18	2	7
Panama	3	0	2	1	4	10	2
Haiti	3	0	1	2	2	12	1

United States qualify for final Round.

ASIA

3 participants to qualify

West-Central Asia - 1st Round

Group A

30.08.91	Yemen v Pakistan	1-0
	Qatar v Iran	2-0
06.09.91	Iran v UAE	2-2
	Yemen v Qatar	1-1
13.09.91	Pakistan v Qatar	0-4
	UAE v Yemen	2-1
18.09.91	Yemen v Iran	1-1
	Pakistan v UAE	0-1
23.09.91	Qatar v UAE	2-1
	Iran v Pakistan	5-0
28.09.91	Pakistan v Yemen	0-2
	Iran v Qatar	2-0
04.10.91	UAE v Iran	0-1
	Qatar v Yemen	3-0
09.10.91	Qatar v Pakistan	2-0
	Yemen v UAE	0-0
14.10.91	Iran v Yemen	2-1
	UAE v Pakistan	2-0
20.10.91	UAE v Qatar	0-2
	Pakistan v Iran	0-6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Qatar	8	6	1	1	16	4	13
Iran	8	5	2	1	19	6	12
UAE	8	3	2	3	8	8	8
Yemen	8	2	3	3	7	9	7
Pakistan	8	0	0	8	0	23	0

Qatar qualify for 2nd Round.

Group B

(Tournament in Hyderabad, India)

04.08.91	Oman v India	1-1
05.08.91	Lebanon v Syria	0-1
07.08.91	Kuwait v Oman	1-0
09.08.91	Syria v Kuwait	1-1
08.08.91	Lebanon v India	3-1
10.08.91	Oman v Lebanon	1-0
11.08.91	Syria v India	1-0
12.08.91	Lebanon v Kuwait	1-2
13.08.91	Oman v Syria	0-0
14.08.91	Kuwait v India	2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Kuwait	4	3	1	0	6	3	7
Syria	4	2	2	0	3	1	6
Oman	4	2	1	1	2	1	5
Lebanon	4	1	0	3	4	5	2
India	4	0	0	4	2	7	0

Kuwait qualify for 2nd Round.

Group C

(Tournament in Bahrain)

19.09.91	Bahrain v Sri Lanka	6-0
19.09.91	S. Arabia v Jordan	1-2
22.09.91	Bahrain v Jordan	4-0
23.09.91	Sri Lanka v S. Arabia	1-5
25.09.91	Jordan v Sri Lanka	7-0
	S. Arabia v Bahrain	0-2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Bahrain	3	2	0	1	10	2	4
Saudi Arabia	3	2	0	1	8	3	4
Jordan	3	2	0	1	9	5	4
Sri Lanka	3	0	0	3	1	18	0

Bahrain qualify for 2nd Round.

EAST-ASIA

1st Round

Group D

1st Leg (S Korea/Seoul)

18.05.91	S Korea v Philippines	10-0
	Bangladesh v Thailand	2-3
20.05.91	Malaysia v Philippines	5-0
	Bangladesh v S Korea	0-6
22.05.91	Bangladesh v Malaysia	0-1
	Thailand v S Korea	1-2
24.05.91	Thailand v Malaysia	4-1
	Philippines v Bangladesh	0-8
26.05.91	Philippines v Thailand	1-7
	S Korea v Malaysia	0-0

2nd Leg (Malaysia/Kuala Lumpur)

29.06.91	Malaysia v Thailand	1-0
	S Korea v Philippines	7-0
01.07.91	S Korea v Malaysia	2-0
	Thailand v Bangladesh	4-0
03.07.91	Bangladesh v S Korea	0-1
	Philippines v Malayasia	0-5
05.07.91	Philippines v Bangladesh	0-3
	Thailand v S Korea	0-2
07.07.91	Thailand v Philippines	6-0
	Malaysia v Bangladesh	0-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
S Korea	8	7	1	0	30	1	15
Thailand	8	5	0	3	25	9	10
Malaysia	8	4	1	3	13	7	9
Bangladesh	8	3	0	5	14	15	6
Philippines	8	0	0	8	1	51	0

South Korea qualify for 2nd round

Group E

1st Leg

(N Korea/Pyongyang)

15.08.91	N Korea v Nepal	5-0
	Maldives v China	0-12
17.08.91	Singapore v N Korea	0-2
	Nepal v Maldives	0-1
19.08.91	N Korea v Maldives	4-0
	China v Singapore	3-0
21.08.91	Nepal v China	0-4
	Maldives v Singapore	1-1
23.08.91	Nepal v Singapore	1-4
	China v N Korea	1-1

2nd Leg

(China/Beijing)

26.08.91	N Korea v Nepal	5-0
	Maldives v China	0-17
28.08.91	Singapore v N Korea	1-3
	Nepal v Maldives	2-1
30.08.91	N Korea v Maldives	7-0
	China v Singapore	3-0
01.09.91	Nepal v China	0-10
	Maldives v Singapore	2-4
03.09.91	Nepal v Singapore	1-4
	China v N Korea	1-0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
China	8	7	1	0	51	1	15
N Korea	8	6	1	1	27	3	13
Singapore	8	3	1	4	14	16	7
Maldives	8	1	1	6	5	47	3
Nepal	8	1	0	7	4	34	2

China qualify for 2nd Round.

Group F

08.06.91	Hong Kong v Taiwan	1-1
09.06.91	Indonesia v Japan	1-2
16.06.91	Indonesia v Taiwan	2-1
	Hong Kong v Japan	3-1
23.06.91	Indonesia v Hong Kong	0-0
	Taiwan v Japan	0-3
29.06.91	Japan v Taiwan	2-0
30.06.91	Hong Kong v Indonesia	1-1
07.07.91	Japan v Hong Kong	3-0
	Taiwan v Indonesia	3-1
13.07.91	Japan v Indonesia	3-1
14.07.91	Taiwan v Hong Kong	0-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Japan	6	5	0	1	14	5	10
Hong Kong	6	2	3	1	6	6	7
Indonesia	6	1	2	3	6	10	4
Taiwan	6	1	1	4	5	10	3

Japan qualify for 2nd Round.

AFRICA

3 participants to qualify

2nd Round

Group 1

	Mauritius v **Zambia	
10.08.91	Sudan v Egypt	1-2
11.08.91	Mozambique v Uganda	0-1
23.08.91	Egypt v Sudan	2-0
24.08.91	Uganda v Mozambique	3-1
	*Ethiopia v Malawi	
	**Gabon v Cameroon	
	*Angola v Ivory Coast	

Group 2

10.08.91	Tunisia v Senegal	3-1
11.08.91	Algeria v Sierra Leone	0-0
11.08.91	Morocco v Mauritania	6-0
	Liberia* v Togo	
	Ghana v Guinea**	
11.08.91	Zaire* v Zimbabwe	
23.08.91	Mauritania v Morocco	0-0
24.08.91	Sierra Leone v Algeria	1-0
25.08.91	Senegal v Tunisia	1-0
	Togo v Liberia*	
	Zimbabwe v Zaire*	

3rd Round

Group 1

25.10.91	Egypt v Malawi	3-1
26.10.91	Uganda v Cameroon	1-2
09.11.91	Malawi v Egypt	0-0
10.11.91	Cameroon v Uganda	2-0
	Mauritius v Ivory Coast*	

Egypt, Cameroon & Mauritius qualify for 4th Round.

Group 2

27.10.91	Tunisia v Zimbabwe	3-1
27.10.91	Ghana v Sierra Leone	2-1
09.11.91	Sierra Leone v Ghana	3-2
10.11.91	Zimbabwe v Tunisia	5-2
	Togo* v Morocco	

Zimbabwe, Ghana & Morocco qualify for 4th Round.

4th Round

08.02.92	Cameroon v Morocco
09.02.92	Mauritius v Ghana
09.02.91	Zimbabwe v Egypt
21.02.92	Egypt v Zimbabwe
21.02.91	Morocco v Cameroon
22.02.92	Ghana v Mauritius

*= Withdrew from tournament.
**= Suspended from tournament.

OCEANIA

0 or 1 participant to qualify

1st Round

19.05.91	Australia v Papua NG	4-0
22.05.91	Australia v N.Zealand	2-0
26.05.91	Australia v Fiji	7-0
07.11.91	New Zealand v Fiji	4-0
09.11.91	Papua NG v Fiji	0-2
11.11.91	Papua NG v Australia	0-5
13.11.91	N.Zealand v Australia	1-2
15.11.91	Papua NG v N.Zealand	
16.11.91	Fiji v Australia	
18.11.91	N.Zealand v Papua NG	
20.11.91	Fiji v N.Zealand	
23.11.91	Fiji v Papua NG	

SOUTH AMERICA

2 to qualify

Group A

Brazil, Paraguay, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela

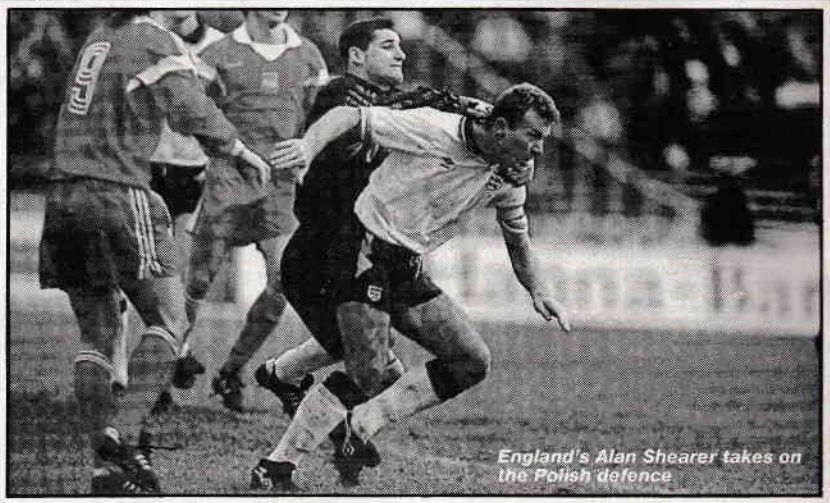
Group B

Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia, Ecuador.

31.01.92	Paraguay v Venezuela
01.02.92	Brazil v Peru
02.02.92	Uruguay v Ecuador
02.02.92	Argentina v Bolivia
03.02.92	Peru v Colombia
03.02.92	Brazil v Paraguay
04.02.92	Uruguay v Chile
04.02.92	Argentina v Ecuador
05.02.92	Peru v Venezuela
05.02.92	Brazil v Colombia
06.02.92	Ecuador v Bolivia
06.02.92	Argentina v Chile
07.02.92	Colombia v Venezuela
07.02.92	Paraguay v Peru
08.02.92	Uruguay v Bolivia
08.02.92	Chile v Ecuador
09.02.92	Paraguay v Colombia
09.02.92	Brazil v Venezuela
10.02.92	Chile v Bolivia
10.02.92	Argentina v Uruguay

Final Round:

12.02.92	1st Group B v 2nd Group A
12.02.92	1st Group A v 2nd Group B
14.02.92	1st Group B v 2nd Group B
14.02.92	1st Group A v 2nd Group A
16.02.92	2nd Group A v 2nd Group B
16.02.92	1st Group A v 1st Group B



England's Alan Shearer takes on the Polish defence

UNDER-21 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1:

29.05.90	Iceland v Albania	0-0
04.09.90	Iceland v France	0-1
25.09.90	Czechoslovakia v Iceland	7-0
09.10.90	Spain v Iceland	2-0
12.10.90	France v Czechoslovakia	1-2
13.11.90	Czechoslovakia v Spain	3-1
16.11.90	Albania v France	0-0
18.12.90	Spain v Albania	1-0
19.02.91	France v Spain	0-1
29.03.91	France v Albania	3-0
30.04.91	Albania v Czechoslovakia	1-5
25.05.91	Albania v Iceland	2-1
04.06.91	Iceland v Czechoslovakia	0-1
03.09.91	Czechoslovakia v France	1-0
24.09.91	Iceland v Spain	1-0
11.10.91	Spain v France	0-0
15.10.91	Czechoslovakia v Albania	3-0
12.11.91	Spain v Czechoslovakia	1-1
19.11.91	France v Iceland	2-1
17.12.91	Albania v Spain	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
CZECH	8	7	1	0	23	4	15
France	8	3	2	3	7	5	8
Spain	7	3	2	2	6	5	8
Albania	7	1	2	4	3	13	4
Iceland	8	1	1	6	3	15	3

GROUP 2:

11.09.90	Scotland v Romania	2-0
11.09.90	Switzerland v Bulgaria	0-2
16.10.90	Romania v Bulgaria	0-1
16.10.90	Scotland v Switzerland	4-2
13.11.90	Bulgaria v Scotland	2-0
26.03.91	Scotland v Bulgaria	1-0
02.04.91	Switzerland v Romania	0-2
30.04.91	Bulgaria v Switzerland	1-0
10.09.91	Switzerland v Scotland	0-3
15.10.91	Romania v Scotland	1-3
12.11.91	Romania v Switzerland	1-3
19.11.91	Bulgaria v Romania	0-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
SCOTLAND	6	5	0	1	13	5	10
Bulgaria	6	4	0	2	6	2	8
Romania	6	2	0	4	5	9	4
Switzerland	6	1	0	5	5	13	2

GROUP 3:

11.09.90	USSR v Norway	2-2
09.10.90	Norway v Hungary	3-1
18.10.90	Italy v Hungary	1-0
18.04.91	Hungary v USSR	0-0
02.05.91	Hungary v Italy	0-1
05.06.91	Norway v Italy	6-0
12.06.91	Italy v USSR	1-0
27.08.91	Norway v USSR	0-1
24.09.91	USSR v Hungary	2-0
16.10.91	USSR v Italy	1-1
29.10.91	Hungary v Norway	0-1
13.11.91	Italy v Norway	2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
ITALY	6	4	1	1	6	8	9
Norway	6	3	1	2	13	5	7
USSR	6	2	3	1	6	4	7
Hungary	6	0	1	5	1	8	1

GROUP 4:

17.10.90	San Marino v Denmark	0-3
30.10.90	Yugoslavia v Austria	1-0
12.11.90	Denmark v Yugoslavia	3-0
21.11.90	San Marino v Austria	0-2
13.03.91	Yugoslavia v San Marino	5-0
03.04.91	Austria v San Marino	3-0
17.04.91	Denmark v San Marino	7-0
30.04.91	Yugoslavia v Denmark	2-6
04.06.91	Denmark v Austria	1-1
08.10.91	Austria v Denmark	1-1
12.11.91	Austria v Yugoslavia	1-2
	To be arranged: San Marino v Yugoslavia	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
DENMARK	6	4	2	0	21	4	10
Austria	6	2	2	2	8	5	6
Yugoslavia	5	3	0	2	10	10	6
San Marino	5	0	0	5	0	20	0

GROUP 5:

30.10.90	Luxembourg v Germany	0-3
26.02.91	Belgium v Luxembourg	2-0
30.04.91	Germany v Belgium	3-1
10.09.91	Luxembourg v Belgium	0-2
19.11.91	Belgium v Germany	0-3
17.12.91	Germany v Luxembourg	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
GERMANY	3	3	0	0	9	1	6
Belgium	4	2	0	2	5	6	4
Luxembourg	3	0	0	3	0	7	0

The UEFA Under-21 tournament also doubles as the Olympic qualifying tournament with the exception of Scotland, England, San Marino and Luxembourg who do not take part in the Olympics. Spain qualify as hosts.

GROUP 6:

11.09.90	Finland v Portugal	0-1
16.10.90	Portugal v Holland	0-0
18.12.90	Malta v Holland	1-4
08.02.91	Malta v Portugal	1-3
19.02.91	Portugal v Malta	2-0
12.03.91	Holland v Malta	7-1
16.04.91	Holland v Finland	1-0
04.06.91	Finland v Holland	1-7
26.06.91	Finland v Malta	3-1
10.09.91	Portugal v Finland	2-0
15.10.91	Holland v Portugal	1-1
16.10.91	Malta v Finland	1-3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
HOLLAND	6	4	2	0	20	4	10
Portugal	6	4	2	0	9	2	10
Finland	6	2	0	4	7	13	4
Malta	6	0	0	6	5	22	0

GROUP 7:

16.10.90	England v Poland	0-1
16.10.90	Rep.Ireland v Turkey	3-2
13.11.90	Rep.Ireland v England	0-3
13.11.90	Turkey v Poland	0-1
26.03.91	England v Rep.Ireland	3-0
16.04.91	Poland v Turkey	2-0
30.04.91	Rep.Ireland v Poland	1-2
30.04.91	Turkey v England	2-2
15.10.91	England v Turkey	2-0
15.10.91	Poland v Rep.Ireland	2-0
12.11.91	Poland v England	2-1
12.11.91	Turkey v Rep.Ireland	2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
POLAND	6	6	0	0	10	2	11
England	6	3	1	2	11	5	7
Turkey	6	1	1	4	6	11	3
Rep.Ireland	6	1	0	5	5	14	2

GROUP 8:

31.10.90	Sweden v Greece	5-0
21.11.90	Cyprus v Sweden	1-1
21.11.90	Greece v Israel	2-2
20.03.91	Israel v Cyprus	4-0
17.04.91	Cyprus v Greece	1-0
01.05.91	Sweden v Cyprus	6-0
16.10.91	Sweden v Israel	2-1
30.10.91	Israel v Greece	2-1
14.11.91	Israel v Sweden	0-0
20.11.91	Greece v Sweden	1-3
04.12.91	Cyprus v Israel	
18.12.91	Greece v Cyprus	

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
SWEDEN	6	4	2	0	17	3	10
Israel	5	2	2	1	9	5	6
Cyprus	4	1	1	2	2	11	3
Greece	5	0	1	4	4	13	1

diary

World Soccer's news service conducted by

KEIR RADNEDGE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

ITALY: *Ruud Gullit says he has held a clear-the-air meeting with Milan president Silvio Berlusconi after repeated rumours that he was no longer wanted at the club ... Toto Schillaci denies having scuffled with Roberto Baggio after a row in training between the Juventus stars.*

NORWAY: *Norwegian officials confirm that defender Gunnar Halle will miss the rest of the international season (to the end of the year) after breaking a leg in a League Cup-tie with Oldham in England.*

YUGOSLAVIA: *Igor Jovicevic, 18-year-old Yugoslav starlet from Hask-Gradjanski (ex-Dinamo Zagreb), seeks his freedom to play in Italy with Verona. However the Slav federation, while annulling his Gradjanski contract, say he cannot move abroad until he has completed a four-year contract with "any other Yugoslav club.*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

ACTION: *Inter recover lost ground in Italy by winning 1-0 away to Lazio thanks to a first-minute goal from stopper Riccardo Ferri. Juventus beat Bari 2-0 to go one point clear at the top ... Viking Stavanger lose 4-3 at home to Lyn but are now certain of winning the Norwegian championship, holding a seven-point lead over Start. Kristiansand and Rosenborg Trondheim.*

ENGLAND: *Paul Gascoigne is the centre of an incident in a Newcastle club in which he further damages his injured knee. Surgery is needed.*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

BRAZIL: *Mario Zagalo confirms his acceptance of the post of assistant national manager to Carlos Alberto Parreira. Zagalo says: "This is a dream come true. We have been friends for a long time and I'm sure we can put Brazilian football back where it should be."*

ITALY: *Beppe Salvemini quits as coach to struggling Bari and is succeeded by Zibi Boniek.*

SPAIN: *Real Madrid president Ramon Mendoza says that Leo Beenhakker will be returning not as coach, but as technical director. Raddy Antic continues as coach — for the time being.*

SWITZERLAND: *FIFA annouce that, after the weekend deadline, only France, Morocco and Switzerland remain as formal contenders to host the 1998 World Cup finals.*

UNITED STATES: *Oscar Ancira, general manager of San Diego Sockers in the MSL, confirms their continuing interest in signing Diego Maradona and says he intends flying to Buenos Aires for discussions with Maradona's agents.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1

ACTION: *Cameroon win the All-Africa Games title, defeating Tunisia 1-0 in the final in Cairo ... Monaco hit eight in the Cup-winners' Cup against Swansea but Bayern Munich, in the UEFA Cup, squeeze past Cork City thanks only to two goals from Labbadia and Ziege in the last 16 minutes of their return leg in the Olimpiastadion ... South American Supercup action sees Argentinos Juniors lose 2-1 at home to Santos while River Plate are held 2-2 by Gremio.*

FINLAND: *Finland boss Jukka Vakkila names midfielder Ari Hjelm in his squad to face Greece even though the player is still recovering from a knee injury.*

FRANCE: *Reims, Champions' Cup runners-up in 1956 and 1959, are declared bankrupt with debts of £4.8million. Provisional redundancy notices are served to 60 club employees, including 20 players.*

GERMANY: *The DFB says the Bundesliga will be reduced to 16 teams by 1992-93 but that a six-round knock-out league cup will be introduced in the winter break, with the winners qualifying for a UEFA Cup place.*

ITALY: *Fiorentina sack Brazilian coach Sebastiao Lazaroni and recall Gigi Radice, the club's coach in the mid-1970s.*

JAPAN: *Japan confirm the award from FIFA of the World Under-17 finals in 1993. The opening match will be on August 20, the Final on September 5.*

REP IRELAND: *Jack Charlton names Niall Quinn in his European championship squad to take on Poland in Poznan.*

SOVIET UNION: *CSKA Moscow forward Igor Korneyev is to undertake a trial with English first division club Manchester City.*

SWITZERLAND: *Zurich dismiss German coach Herbert Neumann despite last season's promotion success.*

ZIMBABWE: *Peter Ndlovu, now with Coventry, is voted Footballer of the Year.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

ACTION: *Few surprises in the return legs of the European club competitions' first round ties — apart from the elimination in the Champions' Cup of Universitatea Craiova by Cypriot champions Apollon and then the KO of UEFA Cup- holders Internazionale at the hands of Boavista. All Scotland's hopefuls crash out (Rangers, Motherwell and Aberdeen), leaving Celtic (Tuesday qualifiers at the expense of Germinal Ekeren) as the Scots' only survivors ... in the South American Supercup, Estudiantes de La Plata hold out in Rio de Janeiro for a 1-1 draw against Flamengo despite having two players sent off. Two players are also sent off in Montevideo as Penarol beat Racing of Argentina 3-2. Sergio Martinez scores twice.*

ENGLAND: *US World Cup star John Harkes may miss the rest of the season after damaging ankle ligaments in an accidental fall during Sheffield Wednesday's 2-1 defeat at Wimbledon.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

ACTION: *UEFA Cup drama in Belgrade where Gijon lose a two-goal lead against Partizan only in the last four minutes of normal time — then win the tie on a penalty shoot-out.*

FRANCE: *Michel Platini recalls controversial Eric Cantona for the European qualifier against Spain.*

HOLLAND: *PSV Eindhoven suspend Brazil striker Romario for one game as punishment for publicly displaying his anger at being substituted in Wednesday's Champions' Cup tie against Besiktas.*

UNITED STATES: *Confirmation comes of the cut in the list of possible World Cup venues. The schedule is cut from 26 to 19 but still "alive" are the indoor stadia of the Pontiac Silverdome near Detroit as well as the New Orleans Superdome. One major blow is the lack of any New York City venue.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

BRAZIL: *FIFA threaten to suspend Brazil as a result of the row in which top club Flamengo have begun court action in a bid to challenge the re-election of CBF president Ricardo Teixeira (son-in-law of FIFA president Joao Havelange).*

ITALY: *Lazio club doctor Claudio Bartolini says that, after checking Paul Gascoigne's latest knee injury, he doubts whether the Tottenham and England forward will be match-fit by the transfer D-day of May 30.*

POLAND: *National boss Andrzej Strejlau names a 16-strong squad to face the Irish Republic in the European championship qualifiers.*

SPAIN: *New boss Vicente Miera drops Michel for the European qualifier agains France — thus making him chief scapegoat for the shock defeat in Iceland.*

SWITZERLAND: *Top ties in the second round of the European club competitions include Benfica v Arsenal, Barcelona v Kaiserslautern and PSV v Anderlecht (Champions' Cup), Porto v Tottenham and Atletico Madrid v Manchester United (Cup-winners' Cup) plus Utrecht v Real Madrid and Auxerre v Liverpool (UEFA Cup).*

WALES: *Terry Yorath names all three top strikers — Ian Rush, Dean Saunders and Mark Hughes — in his squad for the European qualifier against Germany in Nurnberg.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

ACTION: *A hat-trick by Ivanauskas brings FK Austria a 5-1 victory over old rivals Rapid in the Vienna derby ... Belgian champions and leaders Anderlecht lose, surprisingly, by 2-1 at home to Beveren ... Marseille take over at the top in France after Monaco lose 2-0 at home to Toulouse ... it looks like the end for Bayern Munich coach Jupp Heynckes as his men crash 4-1 at home to Stuttgart in the Bavaria derby.*

FRANCE: *Three spectators are slighlty hurt at Rennes after a smoke grenade starts a fire during the game against Caen.*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

ACTION: *Europe and South America draw 1-1 in a veterans' match staged in Tokyo. Players include Michel Platini and Roberto Rivelino ... Slovan Bratislava beat Dunajska Streda 3-0 to go top of the table ... England's first televised league match of the season sees David Burrows and Mark Hughes sent off in Manchester United's goalless draw at home to Liverpool ... PSV win 2-0 at Den Haag to go top of the table in Holland for the first time ... now Napoli go top in Italy thanks to a 4-1 win at Ascoli with two goals apiece for Careca and Zola ... after six rounds of the season in Morocco, no fewer than five of the 16 teams share joint-leadership with 14 points.*

GERMANY: *Berti Vogts names his squad for Tuesday's match against the Rest of the World and surprisingly leaves out Matthias Sammer — on the grounds that one match back after injury is not enough ... Harl-heinz Korbel scores twice for Eintracht Frankfurt in a 4-4 draw with Bayern Munich in his benefit match. Korbel played a record 602 Bundesliga matches before retiring at the end of last season.*

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

BELGIUM: *Cercle sign Kofi Mbeah junior, a 17-year-old Ghanaian star from Soccer Missionaries of Accra ... a groin strain forces Marc Degryse to quit the national squad heading for a friendly in Hungary.*

BRAZIL: *FIFA gives the CBF and Flamengo until the following night to end their legal wrangle which threatens worldwide suspension for both Flamengo and the Brazilian national team.*

ENGLAND: *Manager Graham Taylor recalls "golden oldies" Bryan Robson, Chris Waddle and Peter Beardsley to his European Championship squad to take on Turkey at Wembley.*

ITALY: *Azeglio Vicini names his national squad to face the Soviet Union in a European qualifier and is cleared to include Gianluca Vialli despite the Sampdoria forward's expulsion against Bulgaria last month in a friendly.*

PORTUGAL: *World Youth Cup-winners Emilio Peixe and Luis Figo are included in the European Championship squad to face Holland.*

ROMANIA: *Injuries force the omissions of Gavril Balint, Iosif Rotariu and Ovidiu Sabau from the European Championship squad to face Scotland.*

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8

ACTION: *Austria and Denmark draw 1-1 in the European under-21s.*

BRAZIL: *Flamengo withdraw their injunction preventing the CBF from punishing them for going to court.*

FRANCE: *Marseille's veteran technical director Raymond Goethals says he will retire at the season's end. Goethals was pushed sideways after the summer appointment of Tomislav Ivic as coach.*

GERMANY: *Bayern Munich dismiss Jupp Heynckes after four highly-successful seasons. Former Denmark midfielder Soren Lerby, a one-time Bayern player, is appointed in his place.*

ITALY: *Struggling Cagliari sack coach Massimo Giacomini — the third dismissal after Fiorentina's Sebastiao Lazaroni and Bari's Beppe Salvemini.*

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

ACTION: *In the European qualifiers, Austria lose 3-0 at home to Denmark and Finland draw 1-1 with Greece. In friendlies, Switzerland beat Sweden 3-1 and Hungary lose 2-0 at home to Belgium ... in the South American Supercup first round return, Racing of Argentina are held goalless by Penarol, who go through 3-2 on aggregate.*

SWITZERLAND: *FIFA delay a decision on the Brazilian CBF's row with Flamengo and refer the entire matter to a legal sub-committee ... UEFA propose Bari on December 17 as second leg venue for the European Supercup between Red Star and Manchester United ... a FIFA leak suggests possible banning of backpasses to a goalkeeper's hands in time for the finals of the 1994 World Cup.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

ACTION: *In the South American Supercup, Santos are held goalless at home by Argentinos Juniors but win 2-1 overall; Gremio draw 1-1 with River Plate to square the aggregate at 3-3 but River win 4-3 on penalties.*

ITALY: *Bologna's Hungarian midfiedler Lajos Detari denies rumours that he was the go-between for an Italian bonus offer to Hungary's players when they visited the Soviet Union in the European qualifiers.*

SPAIN: *Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil is fined £18,000 by a disciplinary commission for telling referee Juan Brito he needed psychiatric treatment. Brito sent off four Atletico players in an August friendly.*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

ACTION: *Spain and France draw 0-0 in the European under-21s.*

AUSTRIA: *Alfred Riedl steps down as Austria manager in the wake of the 3-0 home defeat by Denmark. Olympic team chief Didi Constantin is appointed as caretaker.*

ENGLAND: *The FA secure a £100,000 three-year sponsorship with American Airlines ... Paul Gascoigne says he expects to be playing again by mid-April.*

TURKEY: *Former adidas Golden Boot-winner Tanju Colak is surprisingly dropped by Turkey for the European qualifier against England at Wembley.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

ACTION: *In the European qualifiers, France secure their place in the finals — with a game to spare — by beating Spain 2-1 in Seville: it's France's 18th unbeaten game and Spain's first defeat in Seville in 69 years ... the Soviet Union and Italy draw 0-0 in Moscow ... Luxembourg draw 0-0 with Portugal in a friendly ... in Germany Bayern Munich crash 3-0 at home to Borussia Dortmund in Soren Lerby's first game in charge ... in Switzerland Sion beat St Gallen 2-1 to take over at the top. They lead on goal difference from Grasshoppers, who lose 1-0 at home to Neuchatel.*

ENGLAND: *Kenny Dalglish, who quit as Liverpool last spring, is appointed manager of Second Division promotion hopefuls Blackburn.*

His No 2 is Ray Harford, who recently left Wimbledon.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

ACTION: Anderlecht and Mechelen both win to stay joint top in Belgium ... Panathinaikos beat promoted Pierikos 3-1 to take a one-point lead in Greece ... Feyenoord win 4-1 at Den Haag to move two points clear in Holland.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

FRANCE: President Mitterrand honours FIFA president Joao Havelange with membership of the elite Legion d'Honneur.

NORWAY: Molde midfielder Eivind Leonhardsen goes on trial with Manchester City — along with Soviet forward Igor Korneyev.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15

ACTION: In the Camel Cup, in Los Angeles, Mexico beat El Salvador 4-3 and Honduras beat Guatemala 2-0 ... in the European under-21s, Czechoslovakia beat Albania 3-0, Scotland beat Romania 3-1, Poland beat the Irish Republic 2-0, England beat Turkey 2-0 and Holland draw 1-1 with Portugal.

BELGIUM: Luka Peruzovic, former Hajduk Split and Anderlecht defender, is appointed new coach of bottom club Charleroi in place of Georges Heylans.

ENGLAND: Aston Villa sign eastern German youth players Stefan Beinlich and Matthias Breutkreuz from the east Berlin club Bergmann Bosnig.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich ask World Cup-winning sweeper Klaus Augenthaler to come out of retirement.

ITALY: The FIGC announce that Azeglio Vicini is to be replaced immediately as national manager.

SPAIN: Atletico Madrid lose 1-0 at home to Barcelona in the first leg of the Spanish Supercup. Guillermo Amor scores the winner after 86 minutes. Both teams are weakened by the week's international calls.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16

ACTION: The European qualifiers bring victories for Bulgaria (against San Marino), Czechoslovakia (v Albania), England (v Turkey), Yugoslavia (v the Faroes), Germany (v Wales), Holland (v Portugal), Northern Ireland (v Austria) and Romania (v Scotland). Poland are held 3-3 at home by the Irish Republic ... in the European under-21s the Soviet Union draw 1-1 with Italy, Finland beat Malta 3-1 and Sweden beat Israel 2-1.

BELGIUM: The highest appeal court rejects appeals against Heysel disaster convictions on UEFA's former general secretary Hans Bangerter, a Belgian police captain and Alfred Roosens, former secretary of the Belgian federation.

ENGLAND: Aston Villa manager Ron Atkinson dismisses reports that Czechoslovak defender Ivo Stas will have to quit because of long-term injury problems.

FRANCE: Marseille ask UEFA, in vain, for permission to play Yugoslav winger Alen Boksic, formerly with Hajduk Split, in their forthcoming Champions' Cup second round tie against Sparta Praha.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich appoint former stars Franz Beckenbauer and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge as joint executive vice-presidents.

SWEDEN: Local police chief Bjorn Eriksson warns that "our own fans will be just as big a problem at the European championship finals next year as the English supporters."

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17

ACTION: Cruzeiro beat Nacional of Uruguay 4-0 in a South American Supercup tie. Centre-forward Charles scores a hat-trick.

SPAIN: Leo Beenhakker, Real Madrid's new technical director, is formally reintroduced to the squad by president Ramon Mendoza ... Moroccan World Cup goalkeepr Zaki walks out on Mallorca.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18

ITALY: The FIGC, as expected, formally announces that Arrigo Sacchi (ex-Milan) will take over immediately as national manager in succession to Azeglio Vicini. The federation also confirms that Vicini's contract will be honoured until its expiry next summer.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

ACTION: Marseille stay top in France despite losing 1-0 at Saint-Etienne, where star forward Jean-Pierre Papin is knocked out before the game by a bottle hurled from a crowd of home fans. Fortunately for Marseille, pursuers Monaco lose 2-0 at Metz ... in Germany, more gloom for Bayern, beaten 3-2 this time by Bavarian derby rivals Stuttgart. Eintracht Frankfurt win 4-2 at Wattenscheid to move three points clear of Stuttgart, Duisburg, Leverkusen and Dortmund at the top ... a four-way split emerges at the top of the Portuguese table, involving Porto, Sporting, Benfica and surprise packet Boavista ... Real Madrid drop their first point of the Spanish season, held 1-1 at home by Barcelona.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

ACTION: Anderlecht edge one point clear, beating Molenbeek 3-0 while Mechelen lose 2-1 to Antwerp and Brugge are held goalless at home by Ekeren ... Kuusysi Lahti win the Finnish championship, beating HJK 2-0 on the last day of the season to finish one point ahead of MP Mikkeli ... Italian league action sees Milan (2-0 winners v Parma) stay joint top with Juventus (impressive 1-0 winners away to Napoli) ... Atletico Madrid maintain their 100 per cent league record by winning their sixth successive match 1-0 at Oviedo with a goal from international midfielder Vizcaino.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

ENGLAND: England's assistant coach, Steve Harrison, is sacked by his club, Millwall, for the nature of a prank at the team hotel before Saturday's game against Ipswich.

SPAIN: Bernd Schuster extends his contract with Atletico Madrid for one further season.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

ACTION: Santos are held goalless at home by Penarol in a South American Supercup second round return tie and go out 3-2 on aggregate ... Norrkoping lose 2-1 at home to Monaco in a Cup-winners' Cup second round first leg match but the big shock of the night (of the week!) is Bayern Munich's 6-1 thrashing by Denmark's B1903 in the UEFA Cup. Other results include a 5-1 defeat for Celtic at the hands of Xamax Neuchatel, for whom Egypt's World Cup striker Hossam Hassan scores four goals.

BRAZIL: Corinthians' star Neto is banned for four months for spitting at a referee after being sent off in the derby against Palmeiras ... new manager Carlos Alberto Parreira names a home-based squad for his first match, a friendly against Yugoslavia.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

ACTION: A heavy night in the European club competitions with second round first leg matches. In the Champions' Cup Marseille beat Sparta only 3-2, PSV Eindhoven are held 0-0 at home by Anderlecht and Arsenal force a 1-1 draw with Benfica in Lisbon. In the Cup-winners' Cup, holders Manchester United crash 3-0 to Atletico Madrid. In the UEFA Cup Liverpool lose 2-0 at Auxerre ... in the South American Supercup, Nacional beat Cruzeiro 3-0 but lose 4-3 overall; Olimpia beat Independiente 2-0 and 3-1 on aggregate.

FINLAND: Haka forward Kimmo Tarkkio undertakes a trial with English second division strugglers Sunderland.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

BELGIUM: Mechelen midfielder Pascal Dewilde is sentenced to two years' jail by a Bruges court after being convicted of a drink-drinking incident in which two women in another car were killed. Dewilde, a member of Mechelen's 1988 Cup-winners' Cup-winning side, was not in court to hear the sentence because of illness.

HOLLAND: Romario, PSV's controversial Brazilian striker, lays into Bobby Robson, Frank Arnesen and the entire PSV staff in a magazine interview which makes headlines around Europe.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA orders simultaneous kick-off times for the next two matches in both European Championship groups two and seven.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25

ITALY: New national manager Arrigo Sacchi meets the media for the first time since his appointment and says: "I think I can withstand the pressure and responsibilities which are part of the job." ... Marlon, the Boavista forward knocked unconscious in the midweek UEFA Cup tie against Torino, is released from a Turin hospital where he has spent 36 hours under observation ... reports circulate in Genoa that veteran Swede Nils Liedholm is standing by in case Sampdoria dismiss championship-winning coach Vujadin Boskov.

ROMANIA: Cristian Galu, a former aide to Valentin Ceausescu when the son of the late dictator was boss of Steaua Bucharest, is appointed Minister for Youth and Sport.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

ACTION: Bayern Munich appear to turn the corner in Germany, winning 3-0 at home to old rivals Borussia Monchengladbach — with Toni Schumacher out of retirement and back in goal ... Barcelona beat Atletico Madrid again by 1-0, this time in the league in Nou Camp with a 39th-minute goal from Hristo Stoichkov.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

ACTION: Ghana beat Sierra Leone 2-1 in an Olympic qualifier in Accra ... River Plate stay top in Argentina even though their visit to Deportivo Mandiyu is postponed because of provincial elections ... Anderlecht are beaten on a penalty shoot-out by St Truiden in the Belgian cup after a 1-1 draw ... a blunder by goalkeeper Stanley Menzo condemns Ajax to a 2-1 defeat at Utrecht ... Juventus and Milan both win to stay neck-and-neck in Italy ... Benfica go top for the first time this season in Portugal thanks to a 4-1 home win over Chaves ... Hibernian beat Dunfermline 2-0 in the Scottish League Cup Final ... TSKA Moscow win their first Soviet league title for 20 years by defeating neighbours Moscow Dynamo 1-0. TSKA lead Spartak by four points with one game to go ... Real Madrid take advantage of Atletico's defeat to beat Logrones 3-0 and go top in Spain.

ENGLAND: Steve Harrison resigns as England assistant in the wake of his dismissal by Millwall.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

GERMANY: Bottom club Fortuna Duesseldorf sign Yugoslav defender Danko Drazic from the "frozen" Croatian club, Hajduk Split.

SPAIN: Jordi Cruyff, son of Johan, is sent off playing for a Barcelona youth team.

SWITZERLAND: Swiss federation officials confirm plans to provide temporary grandstands to bring their stadia up to the necessary capacities to stage a World Cup finals. Switzerland are bidding for the 1998 event.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

ACTION: Argentina beat the Rest of the World 3-0 in a charity match in Buenos Aires ... Hungary lose 1-0 at home to Norway in the European under-21s.

ITALY: Roma beat Napoli 1-0 in a third round first leg cup-tie.

SPAIN: Barcelona win the Supercup, held 1-1 at home in the second leg by Atletico Madrid but succeeding 2-1 on aggregate.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

ACTION: European Championship schedules see Hungary held goalless at home by Norway and Greece beat Finland 2-0. In a friendly in Varginha, Brazil open new boss Carlos Alberto Parreira's account by defeating a much-weakened Yugoslavia 3-1 ... in the European under-21s/Olympic qualifiers, Israel beat Greece 2-1 in Haifa ... in the South American Supercup semi-finals, River Plate beat Penarol 2-0 in a first leg tie in Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL: Flamengo are suspended from all international club activity by FIFA until a threatened lawsuit against the CBF is entirely withdrawn.

GERMANY: In cup quarter-final ties, Leverkusen beat Stuttgart 1-0 after extra time

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OBITUARY

MAURICE BANACH (right), Koln's 10-goal top scorer this season, is killed in a car crash near Remscheid. His car crashes into a bridge a catches fire. Banach, who was 24, played previously for Preussen Munster, Borussia Dortmund and Wattenscheid. He leaves a widow and sons aged three years and nine months.

GORDON CLAYTON, former Manchester United and Bury goalkeeper, dies at his Stretford home aged 45. Clayton had been assistant manager of GM Vauxhall Conference club Northwich Victoria since July.

GUNNAR GREN, one of the greatest Swedish footballers, dies a sad death aged 71 in Gothenburg. Gren's body was found in his flat on November 14 but it is thought he may have been dead for up to four days. Gren had been ill for some time.

An inside forward, he won Olympic gold with Sweden at the 1948 Olympic Games at Wembley. A year later he transferred to Italy where he formed part of Milan's legendary Gre-No-Li inside forward trio with fellow Swedes Gunnar Nordahl and Nils Liedholm. Gren returned home to play for Sweden, at the age of 37, in the 1958 World Cup finals. Sweden finished runners-up. Later Gren ran a souvenir shop at the Ullevi stadium in his native Gothenburg. Gunnar Larsson, president of IFK Gothenburg, said in tribute: "Gren was one of the greatest Swedish footballers of all time — if not, really, the greatest."

ELIZABETH ROBBIE, widow of Joe Robbie, the Miami industrialist and sports backer, has died at 69. It was Mrs Robbie's involvement with pro soccer in the early 1970s which brought her husband's interest. In due course he built the Miami stadium which bears his names and which is certain to be one of the 1994 World Cup venues.

Robbie deliberately had the stadium built long enough for American football but wide enough for soccer. Joe Robbie died in January, 1990, and the terms of his will provoked a protracted legal row between his widow and three of their children. The hearing was set for November 22 but Mrs Robbie died on November 5.

LORD WESTWOOD, former president of the Football League, dies on November 8 aged 83.

DIARY CONTINUED

and second division Hannover beat Karlsruhe 1-0.

HOLLAND: PSV drop only their second point of the season, held 1-1 at home by MVV Maastrict. They stay top on goal difference ahead of Feyenoord. Ajax beat Willem II Tilburg 3-0 with a star debut performance from goal-scoring Danish teenager Dan Petersen.

ITALY: Police report 16 arrests and seven people in hospital after hooligan violence breaks out after Verona draw 2-2 at home to Milan in a third round first leg cup-tie ... Issa Hayatou, president of the African confederation, says the current allocation of World Cup finals places is a "scandal" and "does not reflect the growing strength of African soccer." Hayatou says that, at the request of the Moroccan federation, a formal complaint will be made to FIFA about comments by president Joao Havelange apparently casting doubts on Morocco's 1998 World Cup host bid.

NORWAY: Hallvar Thoresen, former PSV Eindhoven forward, is appointed coach to Stromgodset, the cup-winners who also finished bottom of the first division and were relegated.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA officials reject the Belgian appeal court's confirmation of the conviction of former secretary-general Hans Bangerter for his responsibility in the Heysel disaster. President Lennart Johansson says: "This decision could mean a ban on UEFA competition matches being played in Belgium." UEFA press officer Rudolf Rothebuhler says: "We've done everything we can since Heysel but you can't blame an organisation for something which happens elsewhere. We have no police forces at our disposal." In a public statement, UEFA says: "The decision is manifestly unjust. As far as UEFA is concerned, the verdict itself and the arguments on which it is based are incomprehensible and unacceptable. They place the whole organisational framework of sport in jeopardy and attribute blame for incidents where one cannot be held personally responsible."

UNITED STATES: A plan to build a temporary platform to widen the pitch at Giants Stadium, East Rutherford, is given a cautious welcome by one of FIFA's World Cup site-inspection commissions.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

BRAZIL: Marcio Braga threatens to extend Flamengo's legal action from the CBF to FIFA. Braga says: "We will not withdraw our lawsuit until the illegal re-election of the CBF president has been judged." The CBF president is Ricardo Teixeira, son-in-law of FIFA president Joao Havelange.

FRANCE: Auxerre draw 1-1 at home to leadership-chasing Monaco.

GERMANY: Ajax star Soren Lerby (now coach to Bayern Munich) had been acquitted on tax evasion charges while present and past club officials and directors were given suspended sentences.

HOLLAND: The tax authorities appeal against tax evasion case judgments handed down by a lower court.

ITALY: Bari sign Yugoslav midfield star Zvonimir Boban on loan from Milan for the rest of the season.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

ACTION: Cruzeiro are held 1-1 at home by Olimpia Asuncion in a South American Supercup semi-final first leg.

ALBANIA: The federation cuts the punishments imposed on champions Flamurtari after the entire team walked off after half an hour of a league match against El Basani, in protest at a penalty award to their opponents. Flamurtari had been penalised 12 league points with three-year suspensions on players Eqerem Menushi and Gjergj Dema for insulting the referee, six-month suspensions on Rapo Taho and Erion Mehilli and one-year bans on coaches Edmons Lico and Shemsi Zilja. The federation's appeals committee cuts the points penalty in half, to six. The bans on Dema and Menushi and the coaches are cut to the first half of the current championship, with the suspensions of Taho and Mehilli commuted to four games.

BRAZIL: Santos are knocked out of the finals of the Sao Paulo championship after being held goalless at home by Botafogo RP. Last week Santos were knocked out of the South American Supercup by Penarol, a result which precipitated the departure of coach Ramiro Valente.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Zdenek Nehoda, one-time star striker with Dukla, takes over as general manager of local rivals and champions Sparta.

GERMANY: Dynamo Dresden president Wolf-Ruediger Ziegenbald warns that the club may go bankrupt within a month ... league leaders Eintracht Frankfurt win a remarkable match 6-3 away to MSV Duisburg.

HOLLAND: PSV midfielder Gerald Vanenburg undergoes knee surgery. How long he will be out of action remains uncertain.

JAPAN: The Toyota-backed club, Grampus Eight, confirm their interest in signing England and Tottenham striker Gary Lineker to spearhead their entry into the new Japanese professional league in 1993. The transfer fee would be £700,000 with the player collecting a two-year £2.3million contract.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

ACTION: Mechelen beat Kortrijk 1-0 to move within one point of Belgian leaders Anderlecht ... Marseille move three points clear of Monaco and Paris Saint-Germain thanks to a 4-0 defeat of bottom club Nancy. Waddle, Papin, Steven and Pele score the goals ... Real Madrid warm up for their UEFA Cup return against Utrecht by winning 3-0 away to La Coruna.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

ACTION: In Brazil's Rio championship, four players are sent off and three penalties awarded in a stormy 3-3 draw between Vasco da Gama and Botafogo ... Feyenoord blow their chance of going top in Holland when forward Regi Blinker is sent off for head-butting an opponent in a 1-1 draw with bottom club De Graafschaap ... Italian league leaders Milan beat Roma 4-1 but their delight is spoiled by the expulsion of Marco Van Basten, sent off in a case of mistaken identity after substitute team-mate Aldo Serena is involved in a skirmish with Roma defender Stefano Piacentini ... Porto and Benfica draw 0-0 in Portugal's match-of-the-season so far — and Guimaraes draw level at the top of the table ... Barcelona draw 2-2 away to Logrones in Spain and are now seven points adrift of league leaders Real Madrid.

UNITED STATES: Speculation that the World Cup will move indoors for the first time is increased after FIFA's inspection team report being "very impressed" by the New Orleans Superdome. The inspection leader is Hermann Neuberger, FIFA vice-president and president of FIFA's own World Cup organising committee.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4

DENMARK: National manager Richard Moller Nielsen names basically the squad which beat Austria and the Faroe Islands for the forthcoming European qualifier against Northern Ireland.

ENGLAND: Manchester United skipper Bryan Robson announces his retirement from the national team on the day the England boss gambles on the inclusion of Crystal Palace's Andy Gray and QPR's Andy Sinton in his squad to go to Poland in the European Championship ... Ken Ridden, national referees' training officer, doubts whether a professional refereeing system could work in British football.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

ACTION: Bayern Munich beat B1903 "only" 1-0 in their UEFA Cup return and crash out 6-2 on aggregate ... Nissan of Japan beat Geylang of Singapore 6-0 in a first round Asian cup-tie.

BANGLADESH: Police report 50 fans injured in hooligan violence after Abahani of Chittagong lose 1-0 to Chittagong Steel Mills. Police using tear gas and steel-tipped batons disperse a crowd of 300 angry supporters. Four of the Steel Mills players are injured in the incident.

ITALY: Juventus become the first club sure of a domestic cup quarter-final place after beating Atalanta 3-1 (and also 3-1 on aggregate). Julio Cesar, Corini and Alessio score the goals.

POLAND: Authorites in Warsaw order up 900 extra police to deal with English fans at next week's European Championship tie in Poznan.

ROMANIA: Dorin Mateut is recalled for the first time in six months to Romania's squad for the European qualifier against Switzerland.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6

ACTION: The European club second round returns see surprises in all three competitions headed by the Champions' Cup, where Sparta eliminate Marseille and Arsenal fall at home to Benfica ... South China of Hong Kong beat Yomiuri of Japan 1-0 in the Asian club championship.

ENGLAND: Roy Wegerle of QPR learns that his application to become an American citizen (his wife is American) has been approved. He now qualifies to play for the US, for his native South Africa, Scotland (his mother's birthplace), England (through residence) and Germany (his father's home).

PORTUGAL: Benfica officials tell Tottenham they will step in if the sale of Paul Gascoigne to Lazio should fall through.

SPAIN: Espanol sack Ljubomir Petrovic, the coach who guided Red Star to Champions' Cup success last season.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA confirm that the European Supercup will be reduced to one match - to be played between Manchester United and Red Star Belgrade at Old Trafford on November 19.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7

BELGIUM: The federation withdraw its proposals for a joint hosting of the 1996 European championship finals with Holland. This is a direct result of UEFA's comments on the latest Heysel case decisions.

SWEDEN: International midfielder Niclas Nylen undergoes a trial with Luton.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA says that Wembley will probably stage the Champions' Cup Final next May with the Cup-winners' Cup Final going to Lisbon.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8

SWITZERLAND: The draw for the new-style third round of the Champions' Cup is made in Geneva. Group A comprises Anderlecht, Panathinaikos, Sampdoria and holders Red Star; Group B comprises Kiev, Benfica, Barcelona and Sparta. The third round draw for the UEFA Cup is: B1903 v Trabzonspor, Gent v Moscow Dynamo, Hamburg v Sigma Olomouc, Tirol v Liverpool, Osasuna v Ajax, Steaua v Genoa, Torino v AEK Athens, Xamax Neuchatel v Real Madrid. The Cup-winners' Cup quarter final draw is: Werder Bremen v Galatasaray, Roma v Monaco, Atletico Madrid v Brugge, Feyenoord v Tottenham.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

ACTION: Austria Salzburg beat Admira 1-0 to stay one point clear of FK Austria ... Belgian league leaders Anderlecht strengthen their position with a 1-0 victory over Mechelen ... Monaco record their first victory in French league action for two months, beating Nantes 1-0 ... Eintracht Frankfurt's lead in Germany is cut to one point after a 1-1 home draw against Karlsruhe ... Atletico Madrid slip again in Spain, this time beaten 2-0 in Valencia.

ITALY: Robert Jarni, the Yugoslav international defender from Hajduk Split, starts training with Bari. He is expected to take the import place from the sacked Australian striker, Frank Farina.

SIERRA LEONE: Two hooligans are shot dead by a policemen in trouble before the match between Stars of Sierra Leone and Black Meteors of Ghana.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

ACTION: Yugoslavia beat a Macedonia XI 4-1 in a warm-up game for the midweek European qualifier against Austria ... AEK Athens are now top of the table in Greece after beating Iraklis 2-0 ... Dutch league top scorer Dennis Bergkamp scores twice as Ajax win 4-0 away to VVV Venlo ... Real Madrid beat Albacete 2-1.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

ACTION: Australia beat Papua New Guinea 5-0 in an Olympic Games qualifier in Suva, Fiji.

ITALY: Frank Farina, sacked by Bari, is linked with Tottenham or a return to Belgium with Mechelen or Standard Liege.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

ACTION: In the European under-21s, Poland beat England 2-1, Switzerland beat Romania 3-1 and Turkey beat the Irish Republic 2-1.

BELGIUM: National manager Paul Van Himst calls up untested Anderlecht new boy Johan Walem for the European qualifier against Germany.

FRANCE: Michel Platini recalls Paris Saint-Germain's Amara Simba in place of suspended Jean-Pierre Papin for the European qualifier against Iceland.

GERMANY: Police arrest six English hooligans after a group of 200 supporters, en route to Poland, damage shops and scuffle their way through the centre of Berlin ... Bayern Munich sign transfer-listed Alois Reinhardt of Bayer Leverkusen for £300,000.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

ACTION: The day's European Championship programme ends with Sweden and France being joined in the finals by Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union and England ... in the under-21 qualifiers, Spain and Czechoslovakia drew 1-1 while Italy beat Norway 2-1 ... in the Olympic qualifiers, Australia beat New Zealand 2-1 in Nadi, Fiji.

BELGIUM: The Interior Ministry opposes UEFA's call for all-seater stadia, saying that security interests are better served by maintaining some terracing areas. Kris Van Limbergen, a special adviser on crowd behaviour, says: "We're responsible for safety and we say must have terraces. UEFA does not have to teach us any lessons." ... Mechelen confirm reports that the club are in serious financial difficulties and will almost certainly need to sell star players such as Bruno Versavel and Philippe Albert.

FRANCE: Raymond Goethals's caretaker reign at Marseille - while Tomislav Ivic goes home to Split to see his family - is extended indefinitely from the original two weeks ... bankrupt Brest, relegated for financial problems last season, are ordered to a further relegation at the end of the coming season after going into liquidation.

HOLLAND: PSV are surprisingly held 3-3 at home by Twente Enschede. A late goal from Erwin Koeman saves the point.

ITALY: Marco Van Basten, Cremonese's Gustavo Dezotti and Torino's Enzo Scifo are among players suspended for weekend expulsions. Van Basten is suspended for one game despite his protest that TV evidence proves he is victim of a case of mistaken identity.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA says that the three Baltic states will be granted provisional membership by the executive committee on the eve of the World Cup qualifying draw in New York in December. FIFA confirms the 1993 World Youth Cup ban on Argentina as punishment for the team's misbehaviour at this year's event in Portugal.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14

ACTION: Sweden and Israel draw 0-0 in a European under-21/Olympic qualifier ... River Plate beat Cruzeiro 2-0 in the first leg of the South American Supercup Final.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Sparta forward Roman Kukleta is targetted by Spanish second division club Betis of Seville.

FRANCE: The top-of-the-table duel between Marseille and Monaco ends in a 1- 1 draw. Pa

Barros putting Monaco ahead and Abedi Pele equalising with six minutes remaining.

HOLLAND: *Ajax midfielder Jan Wouters gains club clearance to move to Arsenal or Bayern Munich after the game against Feyenoord.*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15

ACTION: *Port Authority of Thailand beat Shanghai 3-1 in the Queen's Cup in Bangkok.*

GERMANY: *League leaders Eintracht Frankfurt lose 1-0 away to Werder Bremen.*

ITALY: *Marco Van Basten's suspension is quashed by an appeal commission and he will, after all, be available for Milan's tough weekend visit to Sampdoria.*

SWITZERLAND: *A string of disciplinary punishments are handed down by UEFA for crowd disturbances, etc at recent European competition games. Torino are handed a one-game home ban and Boavista a two-game home ban for incidents during the UEFA Cup second round tie in Portugal. Other clubs punished, to a lesser - financial - extent are CSKA Sofia, Osasuna, Roma and AEK Athens.*

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

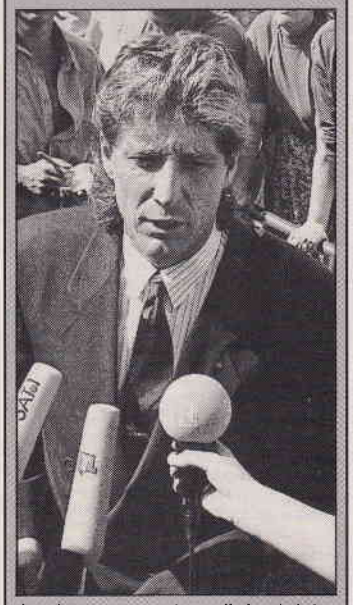
ACTION: *China beat Norway 4-0 in the Opening Match at the Women's World Cup ... Kaiserslautern lose 1-0 to struggling Fortuna Dusseldorf and miss the chance to overtake Frankfurt at the top in Germany ... Real Sociedad beat Bilbao 2-0 in the Basque derby.*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

ACTION: *In Argentina River Plate stretch their lead over Boca to five points as River win 1-0 away to Newell's Old Boys while Boca are held 1-1 at home by Rosario Central ... Palmeiras beat Botafogo RP 4-1 in the Sao Paulo championship play-offs ... Feyenoord beat Ajax 2-0 before 48,000, the best gate of the season in Holland ... Milan win 2-0 at Sampdoria and stay one point clear of Juventus ... Burgos slip from third to fourth in Spain after losing 2-0 at home to Real Madrid ... Red Star warm up for the Supercup match against Manchester United by beating Spartak Subotica 6-1.*

WORLD SOCCER MONTHLY AWARDS

PLAYER OF THE MONTH TONI SCHUMACHER:



It takes courage to walk back into the glare of the German soccer spotlight as Schumacher has done this autumn with Bayern Munich. Three years ago he was virtually run out of town and country for the revelations in his book, Anpfiff. Now, at 37, he is a cornerstone of Bayern Munich's revival bid and looks as good as ever.

TEAM OF THE MONTH B1903 COPENHAGEN:

The Danes did well enough to beat Aberdeen in the first round of the UEFA Cup. But their six-goal thrashing of Bayern Munich made headlines around Europe and underlined how the switch to professionalism is bringing out all the natural skill and talent and spirit within Danish football.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

JOSE ALTAFINI

JOSE ALTAFINI should have been Brazil's World Cup-winning centre forward in 1958. Instead he was so preoccupied with an offer from Milan — made en route to Sweden — that his form suffered. He was replaced by Vava and had to be content with watching from the stands. In Brazil, playing for Palmeiras, Altafini had been known by the nickname Mazzola — for his similarity to the Italian star of the 1940s who died in the Superga air disaster of 1949. The Italian media, insisted on using his real name, Altafini and he starred from 1958 until 1976 with Milan, Napoli and Juventus. In 1962-63 Altafini set a European one-season scoring record of 14 goals. Now he is a popular television analyst of Italian soccer with Radio Monte Carlo.

SOCCER ON TV . . . SOCCER ON TV . . .

SKY SPORTS

SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER
13.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Another full game.
20.00 SCOTTISH LEAGUE FOOTBALL: Highlights of three Premier League games.
22.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: See 13.00

MONDAY 2 DECEMBER
12.00 SCOTTISH FOOTBALL: Highlights of the weekend's leading games.
14.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Another chance to see yesterday's game.
20.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Magazine including all the weekend goals and gossip.

TUESDAY 3 DECEMBER
18.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Magazine
21.00 THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW
24.00 THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW: Repeat

WEDNESDAY 4 DECEMBER
12.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Magazine
14.00 THE FOOTBALLERS' FOOTBALL SHOW

THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER
1800 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
24.00 EUROPEAN ROUND-UP: Repeat

FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER
07.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
12.30 EUROPEAN ROUND-UP: Repeat
18.00 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND: A live look ahead to the weekend.
19.00 GERMAN FOOTBALL — LIVE
22.00 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND: Update
24.00 GERMAN FOOTBALL: Repeat

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER
08.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
09.30 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND
12.00 GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL: Another chance to see last night's match.
19.30 FA CUP SECOND ROUND — LIVE
02.00 FA CUP SECOND ROUND

SUNDAY 8 DECEMBER
13.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: A full game live.
15.30 FA CUP SECOND ROUND: Saturday's match repeated.
20.00 SCOTTISH FOOTBALL: Highlights from the weekend's fixtures.
22.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: See 13.00.

MONDAY 9 DECEMBER
12.00 SCOTTISH FOOTBALL
14.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL
18.00 NETBUSTERS: Goals from around the globe.
19.30 FA CUP SECOND ROUND — LIVE: Exclusive coverage of the pick of the ties.
22.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Magazine.
02.30 FA CUP SECOND ROUND: Repeat

TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER
07.00 FA CUP SECOND ROUND
19.30 ZDS CUP: Exclusive live coverage of the pick of the four area semi-finals.
24.00 ZDS CUP: Repeat

WEDNESDAY 11 DECEMBER
07.00 ZDS CUP: An area semi-final.
11.00 ZDS CUP: Repeat
19.30 NETBUSTERS
20.00 FA CUP SPECIAL

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER
07.00 FA CUP SPECIAL: Highlights from the second round.
12.00 FA CUP SPECIAL: Repeat.
24.00 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER
07.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
12.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
18.00 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND
19.00 GERMAN LEAGUE FOOTBALL: The last live match before the mid-season break.
21.00 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND
01.00 GERMAN FOOTBALL: Repeat

SATURDAY 14 DECEMBER
08.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
09.30 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND
12.00 GERMAN FOOTBALL: (repeat).

SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER
13.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: The last live fixture of 1991.
20.00 SCOTTISH FOOTBALL
MONDAY 16 DECEMBER
12.00 SCOTTISH FOOTBALL: Repeat
14.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Repeat
20.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL: Magazine.

TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER
19.00 FA CUP SECOND ROUND REPLAY — LIVE
24.30 FA CUP SECOND ROUND: Repeat

WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER
12.00 ITALIAN FOOTBALL; Magazine
14.00 FA CUP SECOND ROUND REPLAY
01.00 NETBUSTERS

THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER
07.00 NETBUSTERS
18.00 EUROPEAN ROUND-UP
24.00 EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Repeat.

FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER
07.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
12.30 EUROPEAN LEAGUE ROUND-UP
18.00 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND
22.00 SKY SOCCER WEEKEND: Update

SCREENSPORT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12
1:30 Copa America 1991: Chile v Brazil, Argentina v Colombia

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22
2:00 Spanish Football Highlights

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31
8:00 Spanish Football Highlights

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
07:30 Spanish Football Highlights

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5
00:30 Spanish Football Highlights
21:00 Barcelona v Valencia

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6
16:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7
13:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9
15:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)
22:00 Spanish Football Highlights

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10
18:00 Spanish Football Highlights

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11
08:00 Spanish Football Highlights

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
00:10 Spanish Football Highlights
18:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)
21:00 Espanol v Real Madrid

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13
16:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14
13:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
09:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16
22:00 Spanish Football Highlights

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17
18:00 Spanish Football Highlights

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18
08:00 Spanish Football Highlights

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19
17:30 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)
21:30 Spanish Football 1991/92: The Season So Far

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20
16:00 Argentina Soccer (to be confirmed)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
00:00 Spanish Football — The Season So Far
13:00 Argentina Soccer

ITALY BY PADDY AGNEW

HOLLAND BY SIMON KUPER

BERGKAMP UP, ROMARIO DOWN

THE two best strikers in Holland are having vastly different fortunes this term.

All seems to be going right for Dennis Bergkamp of Ajax, while most things are going wrong for Romario of PSV.

Bergkamp is having his best season: Romario is unhappy, often left out of the side, and desperate to get away.

Romario's problems began even before the season started, when he stayed so long on holiday in his native Brazil that he returned too late for the kick-off.

That upset the club and the players, as did his attitude when he was taken off during a match and gave a V-sign to the bench. Manager Bobby Robson fined him £3,000 and suspended him from the next game. PSV won without him — and he has had difficulty getting back.

Romario has scored heavily during three years in Holland, but does very little else. When he is "off" he rarely runs, does not defend, never makes room for his colleagues.

"He may be the best player in the world," says a Brazilian journalist who knows him well. "But he's not the most intelligent."

Romario seems sure to leave PSV before long, though the club will want a big fee for him. "Without me PSV won't, can't beat important teams, and without me they won't win the title," he says.

Bergkamp sets a different example, working hard for the team and keeping a level head. Real Madrid wanted him earlier this year, but he says: "I'm not ready to live by myself in a foreign city."

Instead he renewed his contract with Ajax and is now set to stay until 1995. By then, the club could have won another trophy or two.

Bergkamp, who scored 25 League goals last season — as did Romario — hit 11 in the first nine games this time.

He scored four in his first eight internationals, looks ahead to possible success in the UEFA Cup, to follow the Cup-winners' Cup they won in 1987, when he was only 18, and he could well

Testing . . . Julio Cesar of Juventus and Frank Rijkaard of Milan clash during the 1-1 draw in Turin.

Time to eat humble pie

TWO months ago your correspondent suggested that AC Milan might have a difficult post-Sacchi season in which their progress would be compromised by a combination of presidential interference, star rivalry and a powerless new coach.

So far, so wrong.

With the first third of the Italian league programme played, AC Milan are out in front, two points clear of closest rivals Juventus and the only unbeaten side in the first division.

More importantly perhaps, Milan not only look the most solid, all round side in the land but they also appear to have refound a fully functional, goalscoring Ruud Gullit.

Gullit's two goals in Milan's 2-0 win against champions Sampdoria in Genoa last month not only underlined his return to something like his 1988 best but they also marked a symbolic handover of the league title baton.

Many commentators saw the Milan win as a case of the old champions handing over to the new.

Even Sampdoria captain Roberto Mancini seemed to suggest as much when saying afterwards: "We've no excuses. Milan are good enough to win the title, we aren't, any more."

For the time being, then, the Milan stars are not fighting amongst themselves, president Silvio Berlusconi is not interfering and coach Fabio Capello is acting and sounding like the real boss.

Given the unexpected bonus of a refound Gullit, what can stop Milan now ?

Before hailing the 91-92 Milan as sure fire champions, however, two very obvious points ought to be made.

Firstly, Milan (like second-placed Juventus) have benefitted from being banned from European competition this season.

Deprived of Champions' Cup distractions for the first time in four seasons, they have looked all the fresher in the league.

However, between now and the spring, all their closest rivals will, like them, be able to concentrate on the league.

So that advantage disappears.

Secondly, by a freak of the computerised fixture list, Milan have yet to play against five of the six sides which most closely trail them in the league.

Defeated

Picking up points against the likes of Ascoli, Cagliari, Fiorentina, Atalanta, Bari and even AS Roma is all very well, but it is little more than one expects of Milan.

True enough, Milan did beat Sampdoria in Genoa and they did draw 1-1 with Juventus in Turin.

Yet, the Juventus draw was a lucky one, coming from an 89th minute defensive deflection, while, sad to report, these days it is no big deal to beat Sampdoria.

When Milan defeated them, they became the fifth side to do so this season.

Much more will be known about this season's Milan following a tough period this month and next when they face Internazionale, Torino, Lazio, Napoli and Foggia, in that order.

Until those games are played and we have reached the halfway point of the season, we remain not entirely convinced about Milan.

Nor are we convinced by second placed Juventus.

Unable to take advantage of the extra man when held to a 1-1 away draw by Lazio, Juventus perhaps played even less effectively in an explosive Turin derby, when they struggled to hold on for a 1-0 win against a Torino side that had been reduced to ten players for most of the first half and nine for most of the second.

After the Turin derby, coach Giovanni Trapattoni spoke darkly about the egotistic tendencies of his players, in front of goal.

Names were not mentioned but Italia '90 golden boys Roberto Baggio and "Toto" Schillaci were clearly the objects of the criticism.

Although Schillaci would appear to be back to near his formidable best, the same cannot be said of Baggio. Hampered by an injury, Baggio has been so quiet recently that even the Juventus patron and No.1 Fan, FIAT President Gianni Agnelli, has begun to suggest that the £8 million pounds spent to purchase him from Fiorentina 18 months ago was NOT a wise investment.

If Baggio were to improve in keeping with Trapattoni's team-oriented tactical dictats, not only might Agnelli be proved wrong (highly unusual in itself) but also Juventus could indeed emerge as a real pretender to the throne, now so clearly abdicated by Sampdoria.

For the time being, however, that's a big if.

What has gone wrong with "Samp" ?

Too much celebrating of last year's title, a too relaxed attitude, an inadequate trio of foreign players and the lack of a true sweeper probably provide most of the answers.

Sampdoria coach Boskov has no doubts that his side's attitude has been wrong for the early part of this season, saying: "After winning the title, my boys simply relaxed and in Italy, if you relax, you get punished."

Unsettled Brazilian Silas in midfield, injury prone Yugoslav Srecko Katanec also in midfield and the veteran Brazilian Cerezo, in the emergency role of libero, probably compare unfavourably with foreign trios such as Rijkaard-Gullit-Van Basten at Milan or Matthaus-Klinsmann-Brehme at Inter.

Then, with the sale in October of injury prone sweeper Luca Pellegrini to Verona, Sampdoria perhaps added to their troubles.

At least, Sampdoria now have no confusion about their major seasonal target — the new formula Champions' Cup in which they have been drawn along with holders Red Star Belgrade, Anderlecht and Panathinaikos.

Confused

As for the rest, last season's Division Two champions, Foggia, the Dino Zoff coached Lazio, the Enzo Scifo inspired Torino and born-again-after-Maradona Napoli are definitely sides to be taken seriously.

Which is more than you can say about still confused Inter, who have yet to come to terms with the zonal soccer ways and means of coach Corrado Orrico.

Final thought concerns former Milan and newly appointed Italy coach, Arrigo Sacchi.

His debut as national coach in a 1-1 draw in Genoa in European Championship Group 3 coincided with an embarrassingly bad Italian performance that was saved only by the excellence of new cap, Gianfranco Zola of Napoli.

Much better things will be expected of Sacchi in future, starting with this month's home European Championship qualifier against Cyprus, just before Christmas.

UEFA DECISION SEEMS CRITICAL

THERE are 32 clubs hoping to join the new League of Wales, due to come into place next August.

The list includes a few surprises: Anglesey club Cemaes Bay, coached by Chris Lawler, the former England and Liverpool defender, made known their intention to become a force in Welsh football despite being below the current top level, as are Caerau FC from South Wales, even further down the pyramid.

A shock application came in from Cardiff City, who intend to increase their playing staff to run two first teams, one in the new league and the other in the Barclays League.

Rules regarding the strongest possible selection for any League fixture may obstruct this, but Cardiff are prepared to table a motion allowing all three Welsh professional clubs to play in both leagues! As a precaution, they also have submitted an application under the name "Majestic FC" — a club at present not in existence. There is talk of a possible take-over of another club.

Meanwhile, the rebel eight are still adamant that they will not join the new League under any circumstances. Everything seems to hinge on the forthcoming UEFA Council meeting, when the FAW's plan for the new League will come under scrutiny, with the aim being Champions' Cup entry.

Should UEFA accept the League plan without any reservation, then the FAW will not force the rebels into line, but if UEFA specify that entry will only be possible if the eight are members, then the FAW will exercise their right to veto the eights participation in English football.

Champions' Cup participation will most probably draw a very lucrative sponsor; the rebel stance seems to be jeopardising the whole plan, and their insistence to remain in English football despite being from a separate footballing country is completely baffling to many, many people.

With the exception of Liechtenstein and Andorra, they are a privileged elite — no other clubs have the right to play in another country's League on purely "choice" grounds.

There is growing resentment within the localities towards those taking risks with Wales' soccer independence, adding further fuel to the argument about "political" reasoning behind the pro-English clique.

On the domestic front, the clubs who will contest the regional titles are becoming more recognisable.

In the South's Abacus League, last season's runners-up, Aberystwyth, lead the way, chased by Briton Ferry, Llanelli, Haverfordwest and reigning champions Abergavenny Thursday.

Aber proved a point in eliminating rebel club Barry Town from the Welsh Cup.

Maybe the exiles are not in a higher class, as they are making out.

In the North's Cymru Alliance, Welshpool lead from Caersws with Porthmadog steaming up in third place.

The champions, Fflint Town United have so far failed to regain last season's fluent form.

MEL AP IOR **THOMAS**

FROM BAD TO WORSE... MUCH WORSE

THE draught that Scotland's top clubs are feeling is not really caused by the onset of winter...it's from the door marked "exit" that awaits those not up to scratch in European competition.

If Scots clubs perform any worse in Europe they'll have to widen that door to Arc de Triomphe proportions. Rangers, Motherwell and Aberdeen all slumped out of their respective competitions in the first round, leaving the nation facing the chilling prospect that it is becoming second rate.

Only Celtic survived to pick up the battered Scottish flag and carry it into the second round on the UEFA Cup before their Swiss humiliation by Xamax Neuchatel.

For them all, the season is now about attaining the qualification for next year's competitions. But is that really worth it? The record of Scottish clubs in Europe is becoming so alarmingly poor — and unfortunately predictable — that few clubs are expected to survive the opening two rounds.

Welcomed

It's no fun being left out in the cold while the rest of the continent enjoys itself but that exit door has led those such as Rangers and Aberdeen, both former winners of the Cup-winners' Cup, to reflect that harsh though it may be, it's reality.

Rangers' Champions' Cup defeat at the hands of Sparta Prague was a devastating blow. Ironically, they were prime movers in the reorganisation of the competition into League format at the last-eight stage.

With a massive payroll and investment in Rangers, chairman David Murray and manager Walter Smith would have welcomed reaching the last eight as an achievement, both financially and on the playing side.

So to fall to a club like Sparta Prague, now shorn of many of their top players who have moved west, was devastating to everyone at Ibrox. If Rangers were disappointed, Aberdeen were ashamed. They slumped out of the UEFA Cup to BK 1903 Copenhagen.

The Dons were one of Europe's top sides in the early 1980s but have failed to get beyond the opening two rounds for the past six years.

Motherwell, in the Cup-winners' Cup, could be excused for inexperience when their Euro baptism ended in an away-goals exit against Polish Cup winners GKS Katowice.

Scots clubs have gone out in early rounds in the past but usually at the hands of bigger clubs, such as Bayern Munich or Red Star Belgrade.

How do they stop the slide and start the long haul back to respectability?

Several respected figures, including Jim McLean, who pushed Dundee United into that top bracket of Europe's clubs in the 1980s with consistently good runs, believe now is the time for a radical overhaul.

Commercialism has strangled skill. The Premier League has increased crowds and generated massive amounts of money, helping most teams to pay the kind of wages that would not have been dreamed of a decade ago, but it is choking our football flair.

The game is too fast and talented players are being swept aside by the runners and athletes that our game now breeds.

Everyone describes Premier League football as 100 mph, and it's not a compliment. Even Pele could not have produced his skill with a foot on the accelerator.

Not surprisingly, when the time comes for our sides to compete in Europe against players from countries whose leagues permit skill to take place, we find it difficult. And this season the greed to get in on the Premier pot meant that our European entrants went into battle with an added weight in their saddlebag — two clubs were added to the division, to satisfy short-term gain, and the 12 face a marathon 44-game season, more than any other in Europe.

Jim McLean says we are now reaping the consequences of this myopic move. His Dundee United side had to play 44 League games when they reached the UEFA Cup final in 1987. By the time United played the second leg of that final, against Gothenburg, they were playing their 70th game of the season.

Involved

In a scathing assessment of the Scottish game, McLean says: "There is no time for players to get involved in the skill side. First-team players rarely have time to be coached. They are playing every midweek and every weekend. They don't have the time to get over injuries. We MUST change things."

McLean is not moaning. He is simply telling it like it is.

We need clubs to be brave and change the structure of the Premier game. Instead of succumbing to running, clubs genuinely interested in pushing back the frontiers of skill should be prepared to do so on the pitch every Saturday, whatever the consequences.

ALAN **FAIRLEY**

Red shirts, red faces . . . Aberdeen crash out of the UEFA Cup.

Horses for courses

THE Republic of Ireland team will have anti-tetanus injections before their home friendly against Denmark on February 19.

The match is at the Royal Dublin Society's grounds in Ballsbridge, Dublin, better known as an international showjumping area, and the home ground for Shamrock Rovers since September 1990.

Rovers players and their opponents are advised to have an injection in case of equine infection, and the Irish and Danish sides will follow suit.

The move to the RDS, close to Lansdowne Road, is necessary because that arena is needed for rugby in February.

The RDS, which has a capacity of 30,000, will be the sixth venue to stage an Irish soccer international.

Dalymount Park was for decades the home of Irish soccer until the seating capabilities of Lansdowne were recognised. Tolka Park in Dublin and two Cork venues, Flower Lodge and The Mardyke, have each staged one game.

Refused

The FAI are protesting to UEFA about the way many supporters were treated in Istanbul last month. Hundreds who had tickets were refused entry and their seats were taken by Turkish fans, and coaches were stoned.

UCD have become the first club in the First Division with floodlights. They celebrated the switch-on by beating Waterford in the first leg of the Shield Final, which they eventually won 2-1 on aggregate.

Derry City will meet Bohemians in the League Cup Final on New Year's Day. It will be Derry's fourth consecutive final appearance. Bohemians have not won the trophy — or any other — since 1979.

Paul McGee, who began the season with Athlone Town, has joined Sligo Rovers for the EIGHTH time. Overall it is the 27th change of club for McGee who made his League of Ireland debut for Sligo as a 15-year-old in 1969.

Since then he has signed for Montreal Beavers (twice), Toronto Mets (twice), Preston North End (twice), Galway United (twice), Finn Harps, Dundalk, Shamrock Rovers, Ballymena United, Waterford United, Derry City, Athlone Town, Queens Park Rangers, Burnley, Hereford, Kidderminster Harriers and Dutch side Haarlem.

SEAN **CREEDON**

The Mexican Wall